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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

FOR THE YEAR 1912.



BOSTON:

WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS,
18 POST OFFICE SQUARE.

1913.

APPROVED BY
THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 1, 1913.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, I have the honor to submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1911, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1912.

Very respectfully,

F. A. BICKNELL,
Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid and for the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines, their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made under chapter 468, Acts of 1909, by 349 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1911, due and payable Nov. 10, 1912, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, . . .	\$718,197 66
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, . . .	5,222 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, . . .	26,404 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, . . .	6,002 75
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, . . .	32,812 75
Total for 1911, ...	\$788,640 16

The figures above given show a decrease of \$41,182.48 from 1910.

It would appear that the expenditures on account of State and military aid have reached the maximum, owing to the passing away of many of the old soldiers, and steady decrease annually may now be looked for, as stated in former report, unless the law is materially changed.

The decrease in the number of recipients is 700, as shown below.

The total number of recipients of State aid, civil war, for 1911, was 13,962, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	6,035	Decrease, ...	507
Widows, ...	7,335	Decrease, ...	97
Wives, ...	533	Decrease, ...	89
Widowed mothers, ...	54	Decrease, ...	6
Army nurses, ...	5	Decrease, ...	1
Total, ...	13,962		

Net decrease of recipients during 1911, 700.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$51.43+.

The total number of recipients for 1911, war with Spain, was 124, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	42	Increase, ...	3
Wives, ...	2	Decrease, ...	1
Widows, ...	33	Increase, ...	1
Dependent mothers, ...	34	Decrease, ...	3
Dependent fathers, ...	3	Decrease, ...	1
Children, ...	9	Decrease, ...	7
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	124		

Net decrease of recipients during 1911, 8.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$42.11+.

There was no legislation affecting State and military aid and burials during the year 1911.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$32,407.25 — a decrease of \$2,223.14 from 1910 — was disbursed to 354 soldiers and sailors of the civil war, and to 85 soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain, making the total number aided under this chapter during the year, 439, a total decrease of 47 from the previous year.

As applicants for military aid are required to furnish medical certificates from time to time, those applicants in Boston and the surrounding cities and towns who find it convenient to call are examined by the surgeon-general without expense to themselves. Surgeon-General Foster should be commended for excellent service rendered.

Under the law of April 21, chapter 356, Acts of 1898, the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions is charged with the duty of investigating appeals of applicants for soldiers' relief where the authorities have refused to grant the same. Numerous cases have been passed upon, and have been satisfactorily adjudicated.

The amount paid for salaries for the year 1911 was about \$3,400 less than is allowed under the provisions of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, which is partly due to the resignation of one

pension clerk at \$840 per annum, the retirement of a book-keeper at \$1,300 per annum, whose duties are performed by one of the clerical force, and the dispensing with the services of a chief clerk at \$1,500 per annum.

Our agents have performed excellent service in investigating the physical and financial conditions of recipients of State and military aid by personal interviews, and have examined about 7,500 cases.

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses under Chapter 468, Acts of 1909.

The law governing the payment of State aid also provides that in the cases of soldiers, sailors, marines, their wives, widows and dependent mothers and army nurses, who died without leaving means sufficient to defray their burial expenses, the sum of \$37 shall be allowed in each case towards the expense of burial; and there were buried, during the year 1911, 888 persons at an expense of \$32,812.75. They are classified as follows: —

Civil war: —

Soldiers,		603	Increase, ...	13
Widows,		212	Decrease, ...	32
Wives,		37	Increase, ...	4
Mothers,		7	Decrease, ...	3
		—————	859	

Spanish war: —

Soldiers,		28	Decrease, ...	15
Wives,		1	Increase, ...	1
		—————	29	

Total, ...	888
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A decrease of 33 cases and a decrease in expenditure of \$1,233.59 from 1910.

Average cost to State per burial, \$36.95+.

Total Payments since 1861.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward the maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, from 1861 to the close of 1911, were \$36,705,989 39

State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1911, paid in 1912, ...	788,640 16
Special laws, 1912, ...	1,264 00
Soldiers' Home, 1912, ...	95,000 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1912, ...	\$37,590,893 55

I have been urged to publish the amounts paid to the different cities and towns, but this would simply be reprinting, as the itemized account is published in the Auditor's annual report.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

Since our last report the law governing the payment of age pensions to soldiers has been changed, which has materially affected the duties of this office. I deem it advisable to print a copy of this act which was approved May 11, 1912:—

That any person who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late Civil War, who has been honorably discharged therefrom, and who has reached the age of sixty-two years or over, shall, upon making proof of such facts, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the pension roll and be entitled to receive a pension as follows: In case such person has reached the age of sixty-two years and served ninety days, thirteen dollars per month; six months, thirteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, fourteen dollars per month; one and a half years, fourteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, fifteen dollars per month; two and a half years, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; three years or over, sixteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of sixty-six years and served ninety days, fifteen dollars per month; six months, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, sixteen dollars per month; one and a half years, sixteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, seventeen dollars per month; two and a half years, eighteen dollars per month; three years or over, nineteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy years

and served ninety days, eighteen dollars per month; six months, nineteen dollars per month; one year, twenty dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-one dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, twenty-three dollars per month; two and a half years, twenty-four dollars per month; three years or over, twenty-five dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years and served ninety days, twenty-one dollars per month; six months, twenty-two dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, twenty-four dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-seven dollars per month; two years or over thirty dollars per month. That any person who served in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil War and received an honorable discharge, and who was wounded in battle or in line of duty and is now unfit for manual labor by reason thereof, or who from disease or other causes incurred in line of duty resulting in his disability is now unable to perform manual labor, shall be paid the maximum pension under this act, to wit, thirty dollars per month, without regard to length of service or age.

That any person who has served sixty days or more in the military or naval service of the United States in the War with Mexico and has been honorably discharged therefrom, shall, upon making like proof of such service, be entitled to receive a pension of thirty dollars per month.

All of the aforesaid pensions shall commence from the date of filing of the applications in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage and approval of this act: *provided*, That pensioners who are sixty-two years of age or over, and who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the Bureau of Pensions, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, receive the benefits of this act; and nothing herein contained shall prevent any pensioner or person entitled to a pension from prosecuting his claim and receiving a pension under any other general or special act: *provided*, That no person shall receive a pension under any other law at the same time or for the same period that he is receiving a pension under the provisions of this act: *provided further*, That no person who is now receiving or shall hereafter receive a greater pension, under any other general or special law, than he would be entitled to receive under the provisions herein shall be pensionable under this act.

SECTION 2. That rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed hereunder.

SECTION 3. That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services rendered in presenting any claim to the Bureau of Pensions, or securing any pension, under this act, except in applications for original pension by persons who have not heretofore received a pension.

SECTION 4. That the benefits of this act shall include any person who served during the late Civil War, or in the War with Mexico, and

who is now or may hereafter become entitled to pension under the Acts of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and the joint resolutions of July first, nineteen hundred and two, and June twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and six, or the Acts of January twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, and February seventeenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

SECTION 5. That it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Pensions, as each application for pension under this act is adjudicated, to cause to be kept a record showing the name and length of service of each claimant, the monthly rate of payment granted to or received by him, and the county and State of his residence; and shall at the end of the fiscal year nineteen hundred and fourteen tabulate the record so obtained by States and counties, and shall furnish certified copies thereof upon demand and the payment of such fee therefor as is provided by law for certified copies of records in the executive departments.

The above law has occasioned a large amount of work for this office, for the performance of which the clerical force deserves commendation, the success of the office being, indeed, largely due to their efforts.

The thanks of the Commonwealth are again due Hon. J. L. Davenport, United States Commissioner of Pensions, for his uniform courtesy and advice and prompt adjudication of claims.

Under the so-called gratuity act, chapter 702, Acts of 1912, numerous claims for bounty have been prepared.

Appended is a brief summary for the year ending Dec. 30, 1912:—

General law (original),	26
General law (increase),	31
Act Feb. 6, 1907,	258
Act May 11, 1912,	3,671
Widows,	312
Wives (half pension),	10
Guardians,	4
Mothers,	10
Fathers,	2
Nurses,	1
Reimbursement,	80
New certificates,	32
Transfers,	11
Restoration,	3
Payment unendorsed check,	7
Certificate in lieu of discharge,	1

Removal charge desertion, ...	1
Twenty years' service, ...	1
Arrears pay and bounty, ...	8
Old claims called up, ...	4

Total number of claims, ...	4,473
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Number of claims allowed, ...	1,622
Number of claims rejected, ...	68

Several thousand pension vouchers were executed during the year at no expense to the pensioners.

Many applicants file their claims through other attorneys and call at this office to have papers completed, — affidavits, etc. While these claims do not appear in the records, we have cheerfully complied with their requests.

Respectfully submitted,

F. A. BICKNELL,

Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

ANNUAL REPORT

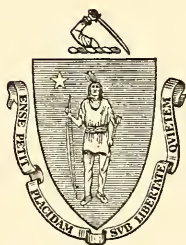
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FOR THE YEAR 1913.



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32 DERNE STREET.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 1, 1914.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

Complying with the requirements of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, I have the honor to submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1912, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1913.

Very respectfully,

F. A. BICKNELL,
Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid and for the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines, their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made under chapter 468, Acts of 1909, by 346 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1912, due and payable Nov. 10, 1913, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, . . .	\$681,212 65
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, . .	4,830 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, . . .	23,865 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, . .	5,103 50
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, . .	28,223 00
Total for 1912, ...	\$743,235 15

The figures above given show a decrease of \$45,405.01 from 1911.

While this decrease is due partly to the passing away of many of the old soldiers, it is caused in great measure by the increasing of the pensions under the act of May 11, 1912, which relieved the necessities of the soldiers to such an extent that many gave up their aid, while others were deemed by the municipal authorities to be self-supporting, and aid was accordingly suspended.

The decrease in the number of recipients is 742, as shown below.

The total number of recipients of State aid, civil war, for 1912, was 13,220, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	5,499	Decrease, ...	536
Widows, ...	7,206	Decrease, ...	129
Wives, ...	473	Decrease, ...	60
Widowed mothers, ...	37	Decrease, ...	17
Army nurses, ...	5		
Total, ...	13,220		

Net decrease of recipients during 1912, 742.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$51.52+.

The total number of recipients for 1912, war with Spain, was 116, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	44	Increase, ...	2
Widows, ...	35	Increase, ...	2
Wives, ...	2		
Dependent mothers, ...	26	Decrease, ...	8
Dependent fathers, ...	3		
Children, ...	5	Decrease, ...	4
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	116		

Net decrease of recipients during 1912, 8.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$41.64+.

The only legislation affecting the law relating to State and military aid and burials during the year 1912 was chapter 589 of that year, which extended the date of marriage for Spanish war widows, so that these widows are now eligible for State aid, provided they were married to their soldier or sailor husbands prior to April 11, 1905.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$28,969 — a decrease of \$3,438.25 from 1911 — was disbursed to 314 soldiers and sailors of the civil war, and to 76 soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain, making the total number aided under this chapter during the year, 390, — a total decrease of 49 from the previous year.

Applicants for military aid are required to furnish medical certificates from time to time to enable us to determine the extent of their disability. Those applicants who have a settlement in Boston and its vicinity are examined as formerly by the surgeon-general without expense to themselves. The thanks of this department are due the surgeon-general for his services in this connection.

Under the provisions of chapter 356, Acts of 1898, the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions is required to investigate appeals of applicants for soldiers' relief who have been refused such relief by the municipal authorities. Numerous cases have been presented to this office during the year, and we believe that they have been adjudicated to the satisfaction of all concerned.

Our agents have been remarkably faithful in the discharge of their duties. They have investigated the physical and financial conditions of beneficiaries by personal interviews, and have visited at their homes those who were unable to present themselves for examination. They have examined nearly 7,000 cases during the year.

In this connection I deem it proper to refer to the death of Frank B. Peabody, special agent, which occurred April 25, 1913. By his death the State lost the services of a faithful, efficient employee, who, through his mastery of the details of the State aid and pension law, was exceptionally well equipped for his work.

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Chapter 468, Acts of 1909.

The law governing the payment of State and military aid and burials provides that in the cases of soldiers, sailors, marines, their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who died without leaving means sufficient to defray their burial expenses, the sum of \$37 shall be allowed in each case towards the expense of burial; and there were buried, during the year 1912, 763 persons, at an expense of \$28,223. They are classified as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers,	.	.	.	.	477	Decrease,	.	.	.	126
Widows,	.	.	.	.	206	Decrease,	.	.	.	6
Wives,	.	.	.	.	28	Decrease,	.	.	.	9
Mothers,	.	.	.	.	5	Decrease,	.	.	.	2
Army nurses,	.	.	.	.	1	Increase,	.	.	.	1
					— 717					

Spanish war:—

Soldiers,	.	.	.	.	43	Increase,	.	.	.	15
Mothers,	.	.	.	.	3	Increase,	.	.	.	2
					— 46					

Total, ... 763

A decrease of 125 cases and a decrease in expenditure of \$4,589.75 from 1911. Average cost to State per burial, \$36.98+.

Total Payments since 1861.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward the maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, from 1861 to the close of 1912, were		\$37,590,893 55
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1912, paid in 1913, ...		743,235 15
Special laws, 1913, ...		1,078 00
Soldiers' Home, 1913, ...		92,000 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1913, ...		\$38,427,206 70

The provisions of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, will expire by limitation Dec. 31, 1914, unless the present Legislature authorizes continuance. I would recommend that this law be continued, or that a new act be framed embodying recent amendments and such new provisions as may be thought advisable.

In this connection I deem it proper to say that widows of soldiers receive only \$12 per month pension from the United States government, and the maximum amount of State aid allowed them is \$4 per month. I would therefore recommend that this maximum be increased to \$6 per month.

Also, under the present burial law, no wife or widow of a soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the burial benefit unless she was married to him prior to the year 1880. I would recommend that this date be changed so as to read, "prior to the twenty-seventh day of June, eighteen hundred and ninety," this being the date of eligibility for State aid and also for pensions.

I deem it advisable to publish for your information the existing law, under which amounts are disbursed by chapter 468, Acts of 1909, and amendments thereto to Dec. 31, 1913, for State and military aid and burials.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE AND MILITARY AID AND TO THE BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of state aid and pensions, appointed under the provisions of chapter one hundred and ninety-two of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and two, shall perform the duties required of him under the laws relative to state and military aid. He shall investigate, so far as the interests of the commonwealth may require, all payments for state and military aid under the provisions of this act. He shall be a state agent for the settlement of pensions, bounty and back pay claims of citizens of this commonwealth against the government of the United States, shall be allowed his travelling expenses when it is necessary for him to visit the city of Washington, and may expend for such purposes and for all other expenses necessary to the proper performance of his duties such sums as the general court may appropriate. He shall furnish information, prepare papers and expedite the adjudication of claims, and assist claimants in proving their cases, and shall keep a record of the work done in his office and make an annual report thereof to the general court. The deputy commissioner appointed under the provisions of said chapter one hundred and ninety-two shall be subject to the direction and control of the commissioner. In case the commissioner is temporarily absent or unable from any cause to perform the duties of his office, the deputy shall perform the duties of the commissioner until such absence or disability ceases. The commissioner shall receive an annual salary of twenty-five hundred dollars, and the deputy commissioner shall receive an annual salary of two thousand dollars, and each shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office. The commissioner may appoint a chief clerk at a salary of fifteen hundred dollars a year, one agent at a salary of fourteen hundred dollars a year, one agent at a salary of thirteen hundred dollars a year, one agent at a salary of eleven hundred dollars a year, one special agent at a salary of nine hundred dollars a year, one book-keeper at a salary of thirteen hundred dollars a year, one clerk at a salary of twelve hundred dollars a year, one clerk at a salary of one thousand dollars a year, and two clerks each at a salary of not more than one thousand dollars a year.

Commissioner
of state aid
and pensions,
powers and
duties.

Deputy com-
missioner,
powers and
duties.

SECTION 2. A city or town may raise money, and, under the direction of the mayor and aldermen or selectmen or, in Boston, subject to the order of the aldermen as to the amounts to be

Cities and
towns may pay
state and
military aid.

paid to beneficiaries, but under the direction 'of the soldiers' relief commissioner, pay state or military aid to, or expend it for, any worthy person, subject to the following conditions.

STATE AID.

Payment of
state aid.

SECTION 3. A recipient of state aid shall have a residence, and shall actually reside, in the city or town from which such aid is received, shall not receive aid from any other city or town in the commonwealth nor from any other state, shall be in such needy circumstances as to require public assistance, and shall belong to one of the following classes:—

First class
qualifications.

First Class, Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth either in the civil war, between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the first day of September in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or in the war with Spain, which for the purposes of this chapter is defined as having begun on the fifteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and as having ended on the twelfth day of August in said year; or who served in the said army or navy in the military organizations of this commonwealth known as three months' men, ninety days' men, or one hundred days' men, mustered into the service of the United States in April, May, June or July in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or in April, May, July or August in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four; or who, having their residence and actually residing in this commonwealth at the time of their enlistment, either served to the credit of any other state in said army or navy, between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the eighteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or served in said army or navy, having been mustered into the service of the United States, at some time between the first day of May and the first day of October in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while having a residence and actually living in this commonwealth and while a member of one of the organizations of the volunteer militia known as the Boston cadets, the Salem cadets, the eighth battery of light artillery or company B of the seventh regiment of infantry; or who served in said navy, being one of the persons included in the list of officers, sailors and marines, prepared by the adjutant general in accordance with chapter fifteen of the resolves of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five and chapter eight of the resolves of the year eighteen hundred and eighty, having been appointed or mustered into and having served in the said naval service of the United States while

an actual resident of this commonwealth; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States either in the civil war or in the war with Spain, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein: *provided*, that the said pensioners were honorably discharged from their said service in the army or navy and from all appointments and enlistments therein, and are so far disabled by such service as to prevent them from following their usual occupations.

Second Class, Dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors who served in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners, and who, if they did not continue in the service of the United States awaiting discharge upon the official proclamation ending the war with Spain, or did not die in the service above defined for invalid pensioners, were honorably discharged therefrom, as follows:—The wives and widowed mothers of said invalid pensioners who served in the civil war, and the widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors dying in such service or after their honorable discharge therefrom, and the widows, children and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom of wounds or disease incurred in such service, or dying while in receipt of a pension of the United States and the state aid of this commonwealth, and the wives, children and widowed mothers of said invalid pensioners who served in the war with Spain. Such children shall not be more than fourteen years of age, and shall have been born prior to their father's discharge from said service and prior to the date of said proclamation.

Second class
qualifications.

Third Class, Dependent wives, widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in either of said wars in the manner required of said invalid pensioners, who appear on the rolls of their regiments or companies in the office of the adjutant general to be missing or to have been captured by the enemy, and who were not exchanged and have not returned from captivity, and whom the city or town officers granting such aid have good reason to believe to be alive, and the dependent children of such soldiers and sailors who would be entitled to receive aid in the second class if their fathers had been invalid pensioners because of service in the war with Spain.

Third class
qualifications.

Fourth Class, Recipients of state aid as dependent fathers or mothers prior to the eleventh day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven who were precluded from its receipt thereafter by the provisions of chapter one hundred and thirty-six of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven; also

Fourth class
qualifications.

fathers or mothers, the fathers being living, of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners and who died in such service, if such parents were receiving aid on the eighteenth day of May in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine. No aid shall be granted to persons in this class unless in each case the mayor and aldermen, selectmen or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner are satisfied, on evidence first reported to the commissioner of state aid and satisfactory to him, that justice and necessity require a continuance of the aid to prevent actual suffering.

Fifth class
qualifications.

Fifth Class, Women who served not less than three months as nurses in the army hospitals of the United States between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the first day of September in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or who served not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals of the United States between the fifteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and the twelfth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and who for three consecutive years next prior to the date of application for aid, shall have been actually resident in this commonwealth, and who shall not be in receipt of an annuity from this commonwealth; if the municipal authorities are satisfied, on evidence first reported to and found satisfactory by the commissioner of state aid, that the service was actually rendered and that justice and necessity require the granting of aid. The amount of such aid and its duration shall be determined by the commissioner of state aid.

Restrictions
as to wife or
widow.

SECTION 4. A wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes nor receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before the eleventh day of April in the year nineteen hundred and five, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety. The words "pensioner", "soldier", and "sailor", as used in this chapter, shall be held to include a commissioned officer, and the word "sailor" shall be held to include a marine.

Classification
of certain
beneficiaries.

SECTION 5. Of the persons to or for whom state aid is paid under any special act or resolve, designating them by name, and passed after the first day of June in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, or to or for whom state aid was then being

paid under any special act or resolve then repealed, all soldiers and sailors shall be held to belong to the first class, and all dependent relatives of soldiers and sailors to the second class of section three, notwithstanding the limitations of such classes; and state aid may be paid to or for such persons in the same manner and with the same limitations as it is paid to or for other persons of their respective classes; but no aid shall be paid to or for any person under the provisions of this section contrary to any limitation or condition of the original special act or resolve authorizing state aid to be paid to or for him.

SECTION 6. No state aid shall be paid to or for a person of the first class of section three exceeding in any one month three fourths of the monthly amount of his pension, nor exceeding six dollars in any one month; or to or for a person of the second, third, fourth or fifth class of said section exceeding four dollars in any one month; and no more than eight dollars shall be paid to or for all the dependent relatives of any one soldier or sailor in any one month. State aid shall not be paid to or for any soldier or sailor on account of service in the war with Spain, or to his dependent relatives, unless he enlisted or was appointed in the service of the United States after the fourteenth day of February and prior to the twelfth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight; but it may be allowed to or for volunteers mustered into the service of the United States in Massachusetts regiments after said twelfth day of August but prior to the first day of January in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine who shall otherwise be qualified to receive the same, and to or for their dependent relatives.

Limit of
amounts
payable.

No aid to be
paid in certain
cases.

SECTION 7. Applicants for state aid shall, before any payment thereof to them, state in writing under oath the name, age and residence of the person for whom such aid is sought, his relation to the person who rendered the service entitling the applicant to aid, the company, regiment or vessel in or to which the officer, soldier or sailor enlisted or was appointed and in which he last served; the date and place of such enlistment, if known; the duration of such service and the reason upon which the claim for aid is founded; and shall furnish such official certificates of record, evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required. The original papers in each case shall be filed with the commissioner of state aid, who shall from time to time provide each city and town with blank forms for the use of applicants for aid.

Applications
for aid.

SECTION 8. Said commissioner shall determine all controversies between invalid pensioners and city and town authorities relative to claims for state aid. He may refuse to decide on the

Commissioner
to determine
controversies,
etc.

Appeal may be taken to governor and council.

necessity of the claimants for aid, but if he shall determine that the claimant is entitled thereto he may authorize its payment to him monthly for not more than one year, under such limitations as he may impose. An appeal may be taken from his determination to the governor and council, whose decision shall be final.

MILITARY AID.

Military aid.

SECTION 9. The recipient of military aid shall belong to and have the qualifications of one of the four following classes:—

First class qualifications.

First Class, Each person of the first class shall have his settlement in the city or town aiding him; shall have served as a soldier, sailor, marine or commissioned officer in the manner and under the limitations prescribed in the first class of section three; shall have been honorably discharged from such United States service and from all appointments and enlistments therein; shall be poor and indigent and, by reason of sickness or other physical disability, in such need as would entitle him to relief under the pauper laws; shall not be, directly or indirectly, in the receipt of any other state or military aid, or of any pension for services rendered or disabilities incurred either in the civil war or in the war with Spain; and shall not, under the laws of the United States or under the rules governing any national soldiers' or sailors' home, be entitled to admission thereto, and his disability must have arisen from causes independent of his military or naval service aforesaid; but the mayor and aldermen, selectmen or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, if satisfied, upon evidence first submitted to and found satisfactory by the commissioner of state aid, that justice and necessity require such aid to prevent actual suffering, may grant it to an applicant for a pension while his application is pending, or to an unmarried applicant for a pension who cannot obtain assistance at a national soldiers' or sailors' home.

Second class qualifications.

Second Class, Each person of the second class shall have his settlement in the city or town aiding him, and shall be an invalid pensioner entitled to receive state aid whose pension and state aid are inadequate for his relief, and who would otherwise receive relief under the pauper laws.

Third class qualifications.

Third Class, Each person of the third class shall have all the qualifications of persons of the first class, except settlement; and he shall have been a continuous resident of this commonwealth during the three years last preceding his receipt of military aid, and he shall be a resident of the city or town aiding him.

Fourth class qualifications.

Fourth Class, Each person of the fourth class shall have all the qualifications of persons of the second class, except settlement; and he shall have been a continuous resident of this com-

monwealth during the three years last preceding his receipt of military aid, and he shall be a resident of the city or town aiding him.

SECTION 10. A city or town shall not render military aid to a person of the third or fourth class until it has furnished to the commissioner of state aid such evidence as may be required that he is entitled to receive aid, and has received from said commissioner an order fixing the maximum amount which may be paid a month, and the period during which aid may be allowed, and stating such other conditions as the commissioner may impose relative to such aid. Such order may be revoked or modified by the commissioner by giving written notice to the city or town which procures it.

Aid under third and fourth classes to be ordered by commissioner.

SECTION 11. No person shall be compelled to receive military aid without his consent. No person shall receive military aid on account of his service in the war with Spain unless he was enlisted or appointed in the service of the United States aforesaid after the fourteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to the twelfth day of August in said year; but military aid may be allowed to or for volunteers mustered into the service of the United States in Massachusetts regiments after said twelfth day of August but prior to the first day of January in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, who shall otherwise be qualified to receive the same. No person shall be compelled to receive military aid in an almshouse or other public institution, unless his physical or mental condition requires it or unless he so elects; and, except in such case, it shall be paid to or expended for those persons only who live separate from persons receiving support as paupers. The mayor and aldermen, selectmen, soldiers' relief commissioner or the commissioner of state aid may require a person to whom military aid is granted to pay over his pension to them to be expended for his relief before he shall receive such aid.

Certain persons not to receive military aid.

Certain persons to pay over their pensions, etc.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECTION 12. No person shall at the same time receive both state and military aid.

Receipt of aid limited.

SECTION 13. State and military aid shall be paid to or applied solely for the benefit of the person for whom it is intended, and only so much shall be paid to or for him as may be necessary to afford him reasonable relief or support. It shall not be paid to or for any person who is able to support himself, who is in receipt of income or who owns property sufficient for his support, nor to an amount in excess of such amount as is necessary, in addition to his income and property, for his personal relief

To whom state and military aid may be paid, etc.

Not to be paid to certain persons, etc.

or support, nor to or for any soldier, sailor, pensioner, dependent relative or nurse if the necessity therefor is caused by the voluntary idleness or continuous vicious or intemperate habits of the soldier, sailor or pensioner on whose account such aid is sought, nor to or for any person who has been dishonorably discharged from any national soldiers' or sailors' home or from the soldiers' home in this commonwealth, unless the commissioner of state aid, after a hearing, shall otherwise determine. State aid shall not be subject to the trustee process, and no assignment thereof shall be valid. No back state aid shall be paid, nor shall state aid be paid to or for any person convicted of crime unless the municipal authorities and the commissioner of state aid otherwise determine, nor shall state or military aid be paid if the pensioner, soldier or sailor deserted from the service of the United States either in the war of the rebellion or in the war with Spain or is wilfully absent from his family and neglects to render them such assistance as he is able to give.

Assignment
not valid, etc.

Payment of
aid restricted.

City and town
officers to
make return to
commissioner.

SECTION 14. The full amount expended for state or military aid by any city or town, the names of the persons aided and the classes to which they severally belong, the amounts paid to or for each person, the reasons therefor, the names of the persons on account of whose services the aid was granted, the names, if any, of the companies, regiments or vessels in which they respectively enlisted, or to which they were appointed, and in which they last served, and the relationship of each person who was aided to the soldier or sailor on account of whose services the aid was granted, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall, within the first ten days of the month following the month in which the expenditure was made, be certified, under oath, by the mayor, treasurer and city clerk of any city or a majority of the selectmen of any town disbursing the same, to said commissioner on blank forms to be provided by, and in a manner approved by said commissioner. The commissioner shall examine the certificates thereof and allow and endorse thereon such amounts as in his judgment have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit the certificates to the auditor. Said commissioner may decide upon the necessity of the amount paid in each case, and may allow any part thereof which he may deem proper and lawful and which, in cases of payment to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to receive military aid, he shall also find to have been made according to his orders; but he shall allow and endorse the amounts which he has specifically authorized to be paid under and according to his decisions authorized and provided for by section eight

Commissioner
to examine
certificates,
etc.

Allowances by
commissioner,
etc.

of this act. The whole of the amounts legally paid as aforesaid and so allowed for state aid, and all payments to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to military aid, and one half of all payments made to persons of the first or second class entitled to military aid, but none of the expenses attending the payment of state or military aid, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after such expenditure.

Cities and towns to be reimbursed.

SECTION 15. The commissioner may, with the consent of the governor, appoint as occasion may require, one or more disinterested persons who shall investigate any claims against the commonwealth for state or military aid, may examine any persons to or for whom such aid has been paid, investigate the reasons therefor and all matters relating to the granting of such aid, and shall report their doings to the commissioner. The reasonable expenses of the commissioner, and the expenses and compensation of any such disinterested person, approved by said commissioner, and allowed by the governor and council, shall be paid by the commonwealth. Municipal authorities who grant state or military aid shall from time to time after its original allowance make such investigations of the necessities and qualifications of the person aided as to prevent any payment thereof contrary to the provisions of this act.

Investigating agents, appointment, etc.

Municipal authorities to make investigations, etc.

SECTION 16. The provisions of the preceding sections of this act and of special acts or resolves now or hereafter authorizing the payment of state or military aid to persons therein named, unless expiring by limitation of their own provisions, or unless otherwise provided, shall continue in force until the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and fifteen, but such provisions as relate to the settlement of accounts for aid rendered by cities or towns previous to said date and to the reimbursement thereof shall continue in force for one year after said date.

Limitation of provisions.

BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS, ETC.

SECTION 17. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner of state aid, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain after the fourteenth day of February and prior to the twelfth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and the body of his wife, widow or de-

Burial agents in cities and towns, designation, powers and duties.

pendent mother, and the bodies of such army nurses as are entitled to state aid under section three of this act, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to the year eighteen hundred and eighty, and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Spanish war unless she was married to him prior to the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and one. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of the death, and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner of state aid, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

Expense of
burial limited,
etc.

Relations may
conduct funeral.

Statement to
be made to
commissioner
of state aid, etc.

Cities and
towns to be
reimbursed.

When to take
effect, etc.

SECTION 18. The expense of such burial shall not exceed fifty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent who has caused such interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground which is used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part so used of any cemetery or burial ground. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, sailor or marine, the regiment, company or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall be certified under oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the city or town expending the amount, within ninety days after the burial; and said commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as in his judgment have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit such certificate to the auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 19. This act shall take effect on the first day of July in the year nineteen hundred and nine, but so far as its provisions are the same as those of existing laws they shall be construed as a continuation thereof.

Approved June 3, 1909.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

I deem it proper to republish the act of May 11, 1912, which was passed by Congress to increase the pensions allowed by the United States government to soldiers and sailors of the civil war and of the war with Mexico:—

That any person who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late Civil War, who has been honorably discharged therefrom, and who has reached the age of sixty-two years or over, shall, upon making proof of such facts, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the pension roll and be entitled to receive a pension as follows: In case such person has reached the age of sixty-two years and served ninety days, thirteen dollars per month; six months, thirteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, fourteen dollars per month; one and a half years, fourteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, fifteen dollars per month; two and a half years, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; three years or over, sixteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of sixty-six years and served ninety days, fifteen dollars per month; six months, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, sixteen dollars per month; one and a half years, sixteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, seventeen dollars per month; two and a half years, eighteen dollars per month; three years or over, nineteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy years and served ninety days, eighteen dollars per month; six months, nineteen dollars per month; one year, twenty dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-one dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, twenty-three dollars per month; two and a half years, twenty-four dollars per month; three years or over, twenty-five dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years and served ninety days, twenty-one dollars per month; six months, twenty-two dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, twenty-four dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-seven dollars per month; two years or over, thirty dollars per month. That any person who served in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil War and received an honorable discharge, and who was wounded in battle or in line of duty and is now unfit for manual labor by reason thereof, or who from disease or other causes incurred in line of duty resulting in his disability is now unable to perform manual labor, shall be paid the maximum pension under this Act, to wit, thirty dollars per month, without regard to length of service or age.

That any person who has served sixty days or more in the military or naval service of the United States in the War with Mexico and has been honorably discharged therefrom, shall, upon making like proof of such service, be entitled to receive a pension of thirty dollars per month.

All of the aforesaid pensions shall commence from the date of filing of the applications in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage and approval of this act: *Provided*, That pensioners who are sixty-two years of age or over, and who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the Bureau of Pensions, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, receive the benefits of this Act; and nothing herein contained shall prevent any pensioner or person entitled to a pension from prosecuting his claim and receiving a pension under any other general or special Act: *Provided*, That no person shall receive a pension under any other law at the same time or for the same period that he is receiving a pension under the provisions of this Act: *Provided, further*, That no person who is now receiving or shall hereafter receive a greater pension, under any other general or special law, than he would be entitled to receive under the provisions herein, shall be pensionable under this Act.

SEC. 2. That rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed hereunder.

SEC. 3. That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services rendered in presenting any claim to the Bureau of Pensions, or securing any pension, under this Act, except in applications for original pension by persons who have not heretofore received a pension.

SEC. 4. That the benefits of this Act shall include any person who served during the late Civil War, or in the War with Mexico, and who is now or may hereafter become entitled to pension under the Acts of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and the joint resolutions of July first, nineteen hundred and two, and June twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and six, or the Acts of January twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, and February seventeenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Pensions, as each application for pension under this Act is adjudicated, to cause to be kept a record showing the name and length of service of each claimant, the monthly rate of payment granted to or received by him, and the county and State of his residence; and shall at the end of the fiscal year nineteen hundred and fourteen tabulate the record so obtained by States and counties, and shall furnish certified copies thereof upon demand and the payment of such fee therefor as is provided by law for certified copies of records in the executive departments.

This act has been amended by the act of March 4, 1913, which provides that a pension granted under the length of service and age clause of the act of May 11, 1912, will be automatically increased

from the date upon which the beneficiary attains the age of sixty-six, seventy or seventy-five years, and no declaration claiming such increase is required.

The following is a detailed statement of the business of this department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1913: —

<i>Applications filed.</i>	
Act of May 11, 1912, ...	322
Soldiers (original), ...	19
Soldiers (increase), ...	11
Widows, ...	294
Reimbursement, ...	86
Guardians, ...	8
New pension certificates, ...	13
Restoration, ...	4
Mothers, ...	8
Father, ...	1
Wives (one-half pension), ...	6
Certificates in lieu of discharge, ...	3
Helpless child, ...	1
Nurse, ...	1
Pay and bounty, ...	2
Old claims called up, ...	9
Total, ...	788
Claims allowed, ...	2,735
Claims rejected, ...	95

It will be observed that the number of claims allowed is greatly in excess of the number filed. This is due to the fact that a large number of the claims filed in 1912 were not allowed until 1913, because of the enormous number of claims filed in Washington immediately upon the passage of the act of May 11, 1912.

The thanks of this department are due the Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., for the prompt adjudication of our claims.

We have executed a large number of affidavits for parties who have filed claims through other attorneys. These claims do not appear in our records.

Under the so-called gratuity act, chapter 702, Acts of 1912, numerous claims for bounty from the State of Massachusetts have

been prepared. This has been done simply to help the old soldiers, as the gratuity act does not come under the State aid and pension law, and the preparing of these claims forms no part of the work of this office.

Much credit is due the clerks of this department for their faithful performance of duty, which has greatly facilitated the business of the office.

Respectfully submitted,

F. A. BICKNELL,

Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONER
OF
STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

FOR THE YEAR 1914.



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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 1, 1915.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, I have the honor to submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1913, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1914.

Very respectfully,

F. A. BICKNELL,
Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid and for the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines, their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made under chapter 468, Acts of 1909, by 346 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1913, due and payable Nov. 10, 1914, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, ...	\$632,288 26
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, ...	4,649 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, ...	19,000 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, ...	5,023 00
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, ...	33,632 00
Total for 1913, ...	<u>\$694,592 76</u>

The figures above given show a total decrease of \$48,642.39 from 1912.

The decrease in the amount disbursed for State and military aid is due partly to the suspension of aid, in compliance with law, to those recipients who were found by our agents at their examinations to be no longer in necessitous circumstances, and partly to the passing away of many of the old soldiers.

The increase in the amount disbursed for burials is due partly to the amending of the burial law, which now provides for the payment of \$50 in each case instead of \$37, as formerly, and partly to the increasing number of deaths.

The total number of recipients of State aid, civil war, for 1913, was 12,344, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	4,976	Decrease, ...	523
Widows, ...	6,940	Decrease, ...	266
Wives, ...	396	Decrease, ...	77
Mothers, ...	28	Decrease, ...	9
Army nurses, ...	4	Decrease, ...	1
Total, ...	<u>12,344</u>		

Net decrease of recipients during 1913, 876.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$51.22+.

The total number of recipients for 1913, war with Spain, was 105, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	33	Decrease, ...	11
Widows, ...	36	Increase, ...	1
Wives, ...	2		
Mothers, ...	29	Increase, ...	3
Fathers, ...	3		
Children, ...	1	Decrease, ...	4
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	105		

Net decrease of recipients during 1913, 11.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$44.27+.

There was no legislation affecting the law relating to State or military aid during the year 1913. In 1914, however, in accordance with the recommendation of the Governor in his inaugural message, section 6 of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, was amended by chapter 375, Acts of 1914, whereby persons now eligible as wives, widows and mothers of soldiers of the civil war and the Spanish war, as well as army nurses of the above-named wars, and helpless children in receipt of a United States pension, for \$4 State aid in the second, third, fourth and fifth classes of section 3, chapter 468, Acts of 1909, may be paid \$6. This act took effect May 1, 1914, and applications for increase of State aid were received in such numbers that it is expected that there will be a substantial increase in the amount disbursed for State aid for the year 1914.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$24,023.50 — a decrease of \$4,945.50 from 1912 — was disbursed to 273 soldiers and sailors of the civil war, and to 66 soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain, making the total number aided under this chapter during the year, 339, — a total decrease of 51 from the previous year.

Applicants for military aid are required to furnish medical certificates from time to time to enable us to determine the extent of their disability. Those applicants who have a settlement in Boston and its vicinity are examined as formerly by the surgeon-general without

expense to themselves. The thanks of this department are due the surgeon-general for his services in this connection.

Under the provisions of chapter 356, Acts of 1898, the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions is required to investigate appeals of applicants for soldiers' relief who have been refused such relief by the municipal authorities. This relief was formerly allowed only to soldiers of the civil war and their dependents. Chapter 323, Acts of 1913, however, made soldiers who served during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection, and their dependents, eligible for this relief. This amendment has increased the volume of work as we have received a greater number of appeals, which have been satisfactorily adjudicated.

Our agents have performed their duties, as usual, faithfully and conscientiously. They have investigated the physical and financial condition of beneficiaries by personal interviews, and have visited at their homes those who were unable to appear for examination. They have examined over 6,000 cases during the year.

With reference to the personnel of this office, it is my sad duty to report the death of two of our agents, Mr. William P. Innis and Miss Lena G. Bayley, who died February 13 and March 5, 1914, respectively.

Mr. Innis labored faithfully in the service of the Commonwealth for thirty years, and his long experience, thorough knowledge of the law and careful, conscientious work made him invaluable to the office.

By the death of Miss Bayley, the State lost the services of a faithful, efficient agent, who was exceptionally well equipped for the duties of her position. Her mastery of the law, her long experience, her conscientious labors and her quick grasp of details make her loss keenly felt.

On May 4, 1914, Eugene D. Sanborn was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Innis, and on May 25, 1914, Miss Helena B. Tirrell assumed the duties of the position made vacant by Miss Bayley's death.

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Chapter 468, Acts of 1909.

The burial act has been amended as follows:—

CHAPTER 475, ACTS OF 1913.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section eighteen of chapter four hundred and sixty-eight of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and nine is hereby amended by striking out the word "thirty-seven", in the second line, and inserting in place thereof the word:— fifty,— by inserting after the word "made", at the end of the first sentence, the words:— but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth,— by striking out the word "It", in the fourth line, and inserting in place thereof the words:— The burial,— and by striking out the word "December", in the twenty-fifth line, and inserting in place thereof the word:— November,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 18.* The expense of such burial shall not exceed fifty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent who has caused such interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground which is used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part so used of any cemetery or burial ground. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, sailor or marine, the regiment, company or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall be certified under oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the city or town expending the amount, within ninety days after the burial; and said commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as in his judgment have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit such certificate to the auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [Approved April 10, 1913.

In accordance with the provisions of this amendment there were buried, during the year 1913, 773 persons, at an expense of \$33,632. They are classified as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers, ...	474	Decrease, ...	3
Widows, ...	223	Increase, ...	17
Wives, ...	40	Increase, ...	12
Mothers, ...	2	Decrease, ...	3
Army nurses, ...	1		
	— 740		

Spanish war:—

Soldiers, ...	30	Decrease, ...	13
Wives, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
Mothers, ...	2	Decrease, ...	1
	— 33		

Total, ... 773

An increase of 10 cases and an increase in expenditure of \$5,409 from 1912. Average cost to State per burial, \$43.50+.

Chapter 311, Acts of 1914, changes the date of eligibility for civil war wives and widows from “prior to the year 1880” to “prior to June 27, 1890.” This amendment increases the number of wives and widows eligible under the burial act, and we may look for a corresponding increase in the amount disbursed on account of burials for the year 1914.

Total Payments since 1861.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward the maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, from 1861 to the close of 1913, were		\$38,427,206 70
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1913, paid in 1914, ...		694,592 76
Special laws, 1914, ...		1,059 40
Soldiers' Home, 1914, ...		98,200 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1914, ...		\$39,221,058 86

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a detailed statement of the business of this department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1914: —

Act of May 11, 1912, ...	160
Soldiers (original), ...	27
Soldiers (increase), ...	16
Widows, ...	280
Reimbursement, ...	85
New pension certificates, ...	15
Guardians, ...	7
Restoration, ...	3
Mothers, ...	4
Fathers, ...	1
Wives (one-half pension), ...	4
Helpless children, ...	1
Certificates in lieu of discharge, ...	3
Payment of unendorsed pension check, ...	2
Correction of name on rolls, ...	1
Ten years' service, ...	2
Pay and bounty, ...	2
Old claims called up, ...	14
Total, ...	627
Number of claims allowed, ...	373
Number of claims rejected, ...	65

As we receive many inquiries from the authorities who have charge of State and military aid in the various cities and towns in regard to pensions under the act of May 11, 1912, I deem it advisable to republish this act.

ACT APPROVED MAY 11, 1912.

That any person who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late Civil War, who has been honorably discharged therefrom, and who has reached the age of sixty-two years or over, shall, upon making proof of such facts, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the pension roll and be entitled to receive a pension as follows: In case such person has reached the age of sixty-two years and served ninety days, thirteen dollars per month; six months, thirteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, fourteen dollars per month; one and a half years, fourteen dollars and fifty cents per

month; two years, fifteen dollars per month; two and a half years, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; three years or over, sixteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of sixty-six years and served ninety days, fifteen dollars per month; six months, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, sixteen dollars per month; one and a half years, sixteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, seventeen dollars per month; two and a half years, eighteen dollars per month; three years or over, nineteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy years and served ninety days, eighteen dollars per month; six months, nineteen dollars per month; one year, twenty dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-one dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, twenty-three dollars per month; two and a half years, twenty-four dollars per month; three years or over, twenty-five dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years and served ninety days, twenty-one dollars per month; six months, twenty-two dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, twenty-four dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-seven dollars per month; two years or over, thirty dollars per month. That any person who served in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil War and received an honorable discharge, and who was wounded in battle or in line of duty and is now unfit for manual labor by reason thereof, or who from disease or other causes incurred in line of duty resulting in his disability is now unable to perform manual labor, shall be paid the maximum pension under this Act, to wit, thirty dollars per month, without regard to length of service or age.

That any person who has served sixty days or more in the military or naval service of the United States in the War with Mexico and has been honorably discharged therefrom, shall, upon making like proof of such service, be entitled to receive a pension of thirty dollars per month.

All of the aforesaid pensions shall commence from the date of filing of the applications in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage and approval of this act: *Provided*, That pensioners who are sixty-two years of age or over, and who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the Bureau of Pensions, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, receive the benefits of this Act; and nothing herein contained shall prevent any pensioner or person entitled to a pension from prosecuting his claim and receiving a pension under any other general or special Act: *Provided*, That no person shall receive a pension under any other law at the same time or for the same period that he is receiving a pension under the provisions of this Act: *Provided, further*, That no person who is now receiving or shall hereafter receive a greater pension, under any other general or special law, than he would be entitled to receive under the provisions herein, shall be pensionable under this Act.

SEC. 2. That rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed hereunder.

SEC. 3. That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services rendered in presenting any claim to the Bureau of Pensions, or securing any pension, under this Act, except

in applications for original pension by persons who have not heretofore received a pension.

SEC. 4. That the benefits of this Act shall include any person who served during the late Civil War, or in the War with Mexico, and who is now or may hereafter become entitled to pension under the Acts of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and the joint resolutions of July first, nineteen hundred and two, and June twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and six, or the Acts of January twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, and February seventeenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Pensions, as each application for pension under this Act is adjudicated, to cause to be kept a record showing the name and length of service of each claimant, the monthly rate of payment granted to or received by him, and the county and State of his residence; and shall at the end of the fiscal year nineteen hundred and fourteen tabulate the record so obtained by States and counties, and shall furnish certified copies thereof upon demand and the payment of such fee therefor as is provided by law for certified copies of records in the executive departments.

This act has been amended by the act of March 4, 1913, which provides that a pension granted under the length of service and age clause of the act of May 11, 1912, will be automatically increased from the date upon which the beneficiary attains the age of sixty-six, seventy or seventy-five years, and no declaration claiming such increase is required.

The thanks of this department are due Hon. G. M. Saltzgaber, Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., for his courtesy and for the prompt adjudication of claims.

As usual, we have executed many affidavits for parties who have filed their claims through other attorneys. These claims do not appear in our records, and therefore are not included in the above summary.

Credit is again due the clerks of this department, whose faithful service has greatly contributed to the successful performance of the work.

Respectfully submitted,

F. A. BICKNELL,

Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONER
OF
STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

FOR THE YEAR 1915.



BOSTON:
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THE STATE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 1, 1916.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 468, Acts of 1909, I have the honor to submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1914, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1915.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid and for the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines, their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made under chapter 468, Acts of 1909, by 345 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1914, due and payable Nov. 10, 1915, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, ...	\$631,666 93
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, ...	5,308 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, ...	15,908 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, ...	4,796 00
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, ...	33,498 03
Total for 1914, ...	\$691,177 46

The figures given above show a decrease of \$3,415.30 from 1913.

Chapter 468, Acts of 1909, was amended by chapter 375, Acts of 1914, whereby persons eligible as wives, widows and mothers of soldiers and sailors of the civil and the Spanish wars, as well as army nurses of the above-named wars, for \$4 per month State aid, in the second, third, fourth and fifth classes of section 3 of chapter 468, may be paid \$6 per month. When the report for last year was submitted it was expected that the many applications for increase under the above act would cause considerable increase in the amount of aid expended for 1914. However, I find that the amount disbursed for 1915 will be very much less than was anticipated.

Chapter 468 was also amended by chapter 349, Acts of 1914, whereby crippled or otherwise helpless children—whether minors or adults—of soldiers or sailors of the civil or the Spanish war may be paid not exceeding \$6 per month State aid, provided that such children are in receipt of a pension from the United States.

An increase in the amount expended for burials may be looked for, owing to the passing away of many of the old soldiers and their dependents.

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1914, was 11,518, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	4,415	Decrease, ...	561
Wives, ...	337	Decrease, ...	59
Widows, ...	6,736	Decrease, ...	204
Mothers, ...	21	Decrease, ...	7
Children, ...	6	Increase, ...	6
Army nurses, ...	3	Decrease, ...	1
Total, ...	11,518		

Net decrease of recipients during 1914, 826.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$54.84+.

The total number of State aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1914, was 113, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	39	Increase, ...	6
Wives, ...	3	Increase, ...	1
Widows, ...	36		
Mothers, ...	32	Increase, ...	3
Fathers, ...	2	Decrease, ...	1
Children, ...	—	Decrease, ...	1
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	113		

Net increase of recipients during 1914, 8.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$46.97+.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$20,704.50 — a decrease of \$3,319 from 1913 — was disbursed as follows: —

Civil war: —

Soldiers, ...	230	Amount expended, \$15,908 50
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Spanish war: —

Soldiers, ...	63	Amount expended, \$4,796 00
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Total for 1914, ...	293	\$20,704 50
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As applicants for military aid are required to furnish medical certificates showing the extent of their disability, the surgeon-general has examined, without expense to themselves those, who have a legal settlement in Boston and the surrounding cities. The thanks of this department are due Col. Frank P. Williams, surgeon-general of the Commonwealth, for the excellent service rendered in this connection, which was of much assistance to the commissioner in determining the amount of aid to be allowed to relieve the distress caused by the physical condition of the applicants.

The agents have, as usual, performed their duties faithfully and well in the examining of State and military aid recipients, and have examined about 4,500 cases during the year.

Burial Expense of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Chapter 468, Acts of 1909, as amended by Chapter 475, Acts of 1913, which increased the Amount allowed from \$37 to \$50.

The law relating to State and military aid also provides that in cases of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil or the Spanish war, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses dying without sufficient means to defray their burial expenses, the payment of not exceeding \$50 shall be allowed in each case if the total expense of burial, by whomsoever incurred, does not exceed the sum of \$100.

There were buried during 1914, 673 persons, at an expense of \$33,498.03. They are classified as follows: —

Civil war: —

Soldiers, ...	427	Decrease, ...	47
Wives, ...	24	Decrease, ...	16
Widows, ...	199	Decrease, ...	24
Mothers, ...	—	Decrease, ...	2
Army nurses, ...	—	Decrease, ...	1
	— 650		

Spanish war: —

Soldiers, ...	22	Decrease, ...	8
Wives, ...	—	Decrease, ...	1
Widows, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
Mothers, ...	—	Decrease, ...	2
	— 23		

Total, ... 673

Net decrease during the year, 100 cases.

Average cost to State per burial, \$49.77+.

TOTAL PAYMENTS SINCE 1861.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court towards maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, from 1861 to the close of 1914, were \$39,221,058 86

State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1914, paid in 1915, ...	691,177 46
Special laws, 1915, ...	949 00
Soldiers' Home, 1915, ...	109,250 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1915, ...	\$40,022,435 32

PERSONNEL OF OFFICE.

With regard to the personnel of the office, on May 7, 1915, Maj. Francis A. Bicknell, Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, was retired at his own request under the provisions of chapter 458, Acts of 1907. The painstaking, conscientious performance of his duties during the twenty years of his connection with the office was recognized by his promotion from the position of first clerk to that of deputy commissioner, and he was finally appointed Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions on May 27, 1910. Major Bicknell's service as a public official and as an officer in the civil war was exceptionally faithful and meritorious, and he retired with honors justly earned and deserved.

Richard R. Flynn, deputy commissioner and veteran of the Spanish war, was appointed Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions on May 7, 1915, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Major Bicknell.

I would respectfully recommend that the salaries of the three female clerks who now receive \$1,000 each per annum be increased to \$1,200 per annum, as their present salaries are not commensurate with their ability and experience gained by long service and the responsibilities of their work.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

I submit herewith a detailed statement of the business of the pension department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1915: —

Act of May 11, 1912, ...	404
Soldiers (original), ...	17
Soldiers (increase), ...	11
Widows, ...	287
Reimbursement, ...	102
New pension certificates, ...	32
Guardians, ...	4
Restoration, ...	4
Mothers, ...	3
Fathers, ...	3
Wives, ...	3
Certificate in lieu of discharge, ...	1
Unendorsed pension checks, ...	3
Extra pay, ...	1
Old claims, ...	14
Total number of claims, ...	889
Number of claims allowed, ...	542
Number of claims rejected, ...	56

I deem it advisable to publish the law relating to United States pensions under the act of May 11, 1912, for the information of the authorities who have charge of State and military aid in the various cities and towns.

ACT APPROVED MAY 11, 1912.

That any person who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late Civil War, who has been honorably discharged therefrom, and who has reached the age of sixty-two years or over, shall, upon making proof of such facts, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the pension roll and be entitled to receive a pension as follows: In case such person has reached

the age of sixty-two years and served ninety days, thirteen dollars per month; six months, thirteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, fourteen dollars per month; one and a half years, fourteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, fifteen dollars per month; two and a half years, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; three years or over, sixteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of sixty-six years and served ninety days, fifteen dollars per month; six months, fifteen dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, sixteen dollars per month; one and a half years, sixteen dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, seventeen dollars per month; two and a half years, eighteen dollars per month; three years or over, nineteen dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy years and served ninety days, eighteen dollars per month; six months, nineteen dollars per month; one year, twenty dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-one dollars and fifty cents per month; two years, twenty-three dollars per month; two and a half years, twenty-four dollars per month; three years or over, twenty-five dollars per month. In case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years and served ninety days, twenty-one dollars per month; six months, twenty-two dollars and fifty cents per month; one year, twenty-four dollars per month; one and a half years, twenty-seven dollars per month; two years or over, thirty dollars per month. That any person who served in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil War and received an honorable discharge, and who was wounded in battle or in line of duty and is now unfit for manual labor by reason thereof, or who from disease or other causes incurred in line of duty resulting in his disability is now unable to perform manual labor, shall be paid the maximum pension under this Act, to wit, thirty dollars per month, without regard to length of service or age.

That any person who has served sixty days or more in the military or naval service of the United States in the War with Mexico and has been honorably discharged therefrom, shall, upon making like proof of such service, be entitled to receive a pension of thirty dollars per month.

All of the aforesaid pensions shall commence from the date of filing of the applications in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage and approval of this act: *Provided*, That pensioners who are sixty-two years of age or over, and who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the Bureau of Pensions, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, receive the benefits of this Act; and nothing herein contained shall prevent any pensioner or person entitled to a pension from prosecuting his claim and receiving a pension under any other general or special Act: *Provided*, That no person shall receive a pension under any other law at the same time or for the same period that he is receiving a pension under the provisions of this Act: *Provided, further*, That no person who is now receiving or shall hereafter receive a greater pension, under any other general or special law, than he would be entitled to receive under the provisions herein, shall be pensionable under this Act.

SEC. 2. That rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed hereunder.

SEC. 3. That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person shall be entitled to receive any compensation for services rendered in presenting any claim to the Bureau of Pensions, or securing any pension, under this Act, except in applications for original pension by persons who have not heretofore received a pension.

SEC. 4. That the benefits of this Act shall include any person who served during the late Civil War, or in the War with Mexico, and who is now or may hereafter become entitled to pension under the Acts of June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-five, and the joint resolutions of July first, nineteen hundred and two, and June twenty-eighth, nineteen hundred and six, or the Acts of January twenty-ninth, eighteen hundred and eighty-seven, March third, eighteen hundred and ninety-one, and February seventeenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-seven.

SEC. 5. That it shall be the duty of the Commissioner of Pensions, as each application for pension under this Act is adjudicated, to cause to be kept a record showing the name and length of service of each claimant, the monthly rate of payment granted to or received by him, and the county and State of his residence; and shall at the end of the fiscal year nineteen hundred and fourteen tabulate the record so obtained by States and counties, and shall furnish certified copies thereof upon demand and the payment of such fee therefor as is provided by law for certified copies of records in the executive departments.

This act has been amended by the act of March 4, 1913, which provides that a pension granted under the length of service and age clause of the act of May 11, 1912, will be automatically increased from the date upon which the beneficiary attains the age of sixty-six, seventy or seventy-five years, and no declaration claiming such increase is required.

The thanks of this department are due Hon. G. M. Saltzgaber, Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., for the prompt adjudication of our claims and for his uniform courtesy.

Many affidavits have been executed for parties who filed their claims through other attorneys. These claims do not appear in our records, and therefore are not included in the above summary.

LAW RELATING TO STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIALS.

I deem it proper to publish for your information the law relating to State and military aid and burials, as codified by chapter 587, Acts of 1914.

CHAPTER 587, ACTS OF 1914.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE AND MILITARY AID AND TO THE BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Commissioner
of state aid
and pensions,
powers and
duties.

SECTION 1. The commissioner of state aid and pensions, appointed under the provisions of chapter one hundred and ninety-two of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and two, shall perform the duties required of him under the laws relative to state and military aid. He shall investigate, so far as the interests of the commonwealth may require, all payments for state and military aid under the provisions of this act. He shall be a state agent for the settlement of pensions, bounty and back pay claims of citizens of this commonwealth against the government of the United States, shall be allowed his travelling expenses when it is necessary for him to visit the city of Washington, and may expend for such purposes and for all other expenses necessary to the proper performance of his duties such sums as the general court may appropriate. He shall furnish information, prepare papers and expedite the adjudication of claims, and assist claimants in proving their cases, and shall keep a record of the work done in his office and make an annual report thereof to the general court. The deputy commissioner appointed under the provisions of said chapter one hundred and ninety-two shall be subject to the direction and control of the commissioner. In case the commissioner is temporarily absent or unable from any cause to perform the duties of his office, the deputy shall perform the duties of the commissioner until such absence or disability ceases. The commissioner shall receive an annual salary of twenty-seven hundred dollars, and the deputy commissioner shall receive an annual salary of twenty-three hundred dollars, and each shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office. The commissioner may appoint a chief clerk at a salary of fifteen hundred dollars a

Deputy com-
missioner,
powers and
duties.

Salaries.

year, one agent at a salary of fourteen hundred dollars a year, one agent at a salary of thirteen hundred dollars a year, one agent at a salary of eleven hundred dollars a year, one special agent at a salary of nine hundred dollars a year, one clerk at a salary of twelve hundred dollars a year, one clerk at a salary of one thousand dollars a year, and two clerks each at a salary of not more than one thousand dollars a year.

Clerks, agents,
etc.

SECTION 2. [As affected by chapter 467, Acts of 1910.] A city or town may raise money, and, under the direction of the mayor and aldermen or officers or board having the powers of mayor and aldermen, or selectmen, or, in Boston, subject to the order of the city council, as to the amounts to be paid to beneficiaries, but under the direction of the soldiers' relief commissioner, pay state or military aid to, or expend it for, any worthy person, subject to the conditions specified in this chapter, but wherever money is expended for a person within the provisions of this act, no officer of any city or town shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, direct, or in any way interfere with the recipient of such aid in the matter of the person, partnership or corporation to whom or to which, or the place at which, the recipient shall give his custom; and whoever violates this provision shall be subject to a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars.

Cities and
towns may pay
state and
military aid,
etc.

STATE AID.

SECTION 3. A recipient of state aid shall have a residence, and shall actually reside, in the city or town from which such aid is received, shall not receive aid from any other city or town in the commonwealth nor from any other state, shall be in such needy circumstances as to require public assistance, and shall belong to one of the following classes:—

Payment of
state aid.

First Class, Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth either in the civil war, between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the first day of September in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or in the war with Spain, which for the purposes of this act is defined as having begun on the fifteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and as having ended on the twelfth day of August in said year; or who served in the said army or navy in the military organizations of this commonwealth known as three months' men, ninety days' men, or one hundred days' men, mustered into the service of the United States in April, May, June or July in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or in April, May, July or August in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four; or who, having their residence and actually residing in this commonwealth at the time of their enlistment, either served to the credit of any other

First class
qualifications.

state in said army or navy, between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the eighteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or served in said army or navy, having been mustered into the service of the United States, at some time between the first day of May and the first day of October in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while having a residence and actually living in this commonwealth and while a member of one of the organizations of the volunteer militia known as the Boston cadets, the Salem cadets, the eighth battery of light artillery, or company B of the seventh regiment of infantry; or who served in said navy, being one of the persons included in the list of officers, sailors and marines, prepared by the adjutant general in accordance with chapter fifteen of the resolves of the year eighteen hundred and seventy-five and chapter eight of the resolves of the year eighteen hundred and eighty, having been appointed or mustered into and having served in the said naval service of the United States while an actual resident of this commonwealth; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States either in the civil war or in the war with Spain, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein: *provided*, that the said pensioners were honorably discharged from their said service in the army or navy and from all appointments and enlistments therein, and are so far disabled by such service as to prevent them from following their usual occupations.

Proviso.

Second class
qualifications.

Second Class, Dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors who served in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners, and who, if they did not continue in the service of the United States awaiting discharge upon the official proclamation ending the war with Spain, or did not die in the service above defined for invalid pensioners, were honorably discharged therefrom, as follows:— The wives and widowed mothers of such invalid pensioners who served in the civil war, and the widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors dying in such service or after their honorable discharge therefrom, and the widows, children and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom of wounds or disease incurred in such service, or dying while in receipt of a pension of the United States and the state aid of this commonwealth, and the wives, children and widowed mothers of such invalid pensioners who served in the war with Spain. Such children shall not be more than fourteen years of age, and shall have been born prior to their father's discharge from said service and prior to the date of said proclamation. There shall also be included in this class the crippled or otherwise helpless children, whether minors or adults, of soldiers or sailors

who served in either of the said wars: *provided*, that such children are in receipt of a pension from the United States. Proviso.

Third Class, Dependent wives, widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in either of said wars in the manner required of said invalid pensioners, who appear on the rolls of their regiments or companies in the office of the adjutant general to be missing or to have been captured by the enemy, and who were not exchanged and have not returned from captivity, and whom the city or town officers granting such aid have good reason to believe to be alive, and the dependent children of such soldiers and sailors who would be entitled to receive aid in the second class if their fathers had been invalid pensioners because of service in the war with Spain. Third class qualifications.

Fourth Class, Recipients of state aid as dependent fathers or mothers prior to the eleventh day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven who were precluded from its receipt thereafter by the provisions of chapter one hundred and thirty-six of the acts of the year eighteen hundred and sixty-seven; also fathers or mothers, the fathers being living, of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners and who died in such service, if such parents were receiving aid on the eighteenth day of May in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine. No aid shall be granted to persons in this class unless in each case the mayor and aldermen or officers or board having the powers of mayor and aldermen, selectmen or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, are satisfied, on evidence first reported to the commissioner of state aid and satisfactory to him, that justice and necessity require a continuance of the aid to prevent actual suffering. Fourth class qualifications.

Fifth Class, Women who served not less than three months as nurses in the army hospitals of the United States between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the first day of September in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or who served not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals of the United States between the fifteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and the twelfth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, and who for three consecutive years next prior to the date of application for aid, shall have been actually resident in this commonwealth, and who shall not be in receipt of an annuity from this commonwealth; if the municipal authorities are satisfied, on evidence first reported to and found satisfactory by the commissioner of state aid, that the service was actually rendered and that justice and necessity require the granting of aid. The amount of such aid and its duration shall be determined by the commissioner of state aid. Fifth class qualifications.

SECTION 4. A wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be

Restrictions
as to wife or
widow.

held to belong to any of the foregoing classes nor receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before the eleventh day of April in the year nineteen hundred and five, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety. The words "pensioner", "soldier", and "sailor", as used in this act, shall be held to include a commissioned officer, and the word "sailor" shall be held to include a marine.

Certain words
defined.

Classification
of certain
beneficiaries.

SECTION 5. Of the persons to or for whom state aid is paid under any special act or resolve, designating them by name, and passed after the first day of June in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, or to or for whom state aid was then being paid under any special act or resolve then repealed, all soldiers and sailors shall be held to belong to the first class, and all dependent relatives of soldiers and sailors to the second class of section three, notwithstanding the limitations of such classes; and state aid may be paid to or for such persons in the same manner and with the same limitations as it is paid to or for other persons of their respective classes; but no aid shall be paid to or for any person under the provisions of this section contrary to any limitation or condition of the original special act or resolve authorizing state aid to be paid to or for him.

Limit of
amounts
payable.

SECTION 6. No state aid shall be paid to or for a person of the first class of section three exceeding in any one month three fourths of the monthly amount of his pension, nor exceeding six dollars in any one month; or to or for a person of the second, third, fourth or fifth class of said section exceeding six dollars in any one month; and no more than twelve dollars shall be paid to or for all dependent relatives of any one soldier or sailor in any one month. State aid shall not be paid to or for any soldier or sailor on account of service in the war with Spain, or to his dependent relatives, unless he enlisted or was appointed in the service of the United States after the fourteenth day of February and prior to the twelfth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight; but it may be allowed to or for volunteers mustered into the service of the United States in Massachusetts regiments after said twelfth day of August but prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, who shall otherwise be qualified to receive the same, and to or for their dependent relatives.

No aid to be
paid in cer-
tain cases.

Applications
for aid.

SECTION 7. Applicants for state aid shall, before any payment thereof to them, state in writing under oath the name, age and residence of the person for whom such aid is sought, his relation to the person who rendered the service entitling the applicant to aid, the company, regiment or vessel in or to which the officer, soldier or

sailor enlisted or was appointed and in which he last served; the date and place of such enlistment, if known; the duration of such service and the reason upon which the claim for aid is founded; and shall furnish such official certificates of record, evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required. The original papers in each case shall be filed with the commissioner of state aid, who shall from time to time provide each city and town with blank forms for the use of applicants for aid.

SECTION 8. Said commissioner shall determine all controversies between invalid pensioners and city and town authorities relative to claims for state aid. He may refuse to decide on the necessity of the claimants for aid, but if he shall determine that the claimant is entitled thereto he may authorize its payment to him monthly for not more than one year, under such limitations as he may impose. An appeal may be taken from his determination to the governor and council, whose decision shall be final.

Commissioner to determine controversies, etc.

Appeal may be taken to governor and council.

MILITARY AID.

SECTION 9. The recipient of military aid shall belong to and have the qualifications of one of the four following classes: —

Military aid.

First Class, Each person of the first class shall have his settlement in the city or town aiding him; shall have served as a soldier, sailor, marine or commissioned officer in the manner and under the limitations prescribed in the first class of section three; shall have been honorably discharged from such United States service and from all appointments and enlistments therein; shall be poor and indigent and, by reason of sickness or other physical disability, in such need as would entitle him to relief under the pauper laws; shall not be, directly or indirectly, in the receipt of any other state or military aid, or of any pension for services rendered or disabilities incurred either in the civil war or in the war with Spain; and shall not, under the laws of the United States or under the rules governing any national soldiers' or sailors' home, be entitled to admission thereto, and his disability must have arisen from causes independent of his military or naval service aforesaid; but the mayor and aldermen, or officers or board having the powers of mayor and aldermen, selectmen, or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, if satisfied, upon evidence first submitted to and found satisfactory by the commissioner of state aid, that justice and necessity require such aid to prevent actual suffering, may grant it to an applicant for a pension while his application is pending, or to an unmarried applicant for a pension who cannot obtain assistance at a national soldiers' or sailors' home.

First class qualifications.

Second Class, Each person of the second class shall have his settlement in the city or town aiding him, and shall be an invalid pensioner entitled to receive state aid whose pension and state aid

Second class qualifications.

CHAPTER 332, GENERAL ACTS OF 1917.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE PAY AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN
SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of authorizing state pay for soldiers and sailors in the federal service as provided by chapter two hundred and eleven of the General Acts of the year nineteen hundred and seventeen, and aid for their dependents under the provisions of chapter one hundred and seventy-nine of the General Acts of the year nineteen hundred and seventeen, the war with the German Empire is defined as having begun February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and any non-commissioned officer or enlisted man having a residence of at least six months within this state and serving to the credit of this commonwealth in the regular or volunteer forces of the United States army, navy or marine corps, whose federal service began subsequent to said February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, is eligible under the provisions of the above acts.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved May 25, 1917.*]

PERSONNEL.

I respectfully request that the salaries of the 3 female clerks and 1 female agent now receiving \$1,100 be increased to \$1,200 per annum, as their present salaries do not equal the amounts paid in other departments for the same degree of ability, varied experience and responsibility. In view of the extra work entailed by the present war, I also recommend that the amount authorized for the payment of a chief clerk be increased from \$1,500 to \$1,800, and that the employment of an additional clerk be authorized at a salary of not exceeding \$1,000.

I further request permission to appoint three extra agents at a salary of \$1,300 each, their whole time to be devoted to investigation of State aid cases outside the office.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Chapter 356, Acts of 1898, charges the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions with the investigation of the appeals of aggrieved soldiers and their dependents when the municipal authorities refuse or neglect to grant them soldiers' relief.

This department is constantly in receipt of such appeals, which necessitate careful investigation as to legal settlement and the need of the aggrieved parties before they can be adjudicated.

Chapter 58, General Acts of 1917, extends the provisions of section 18, chapter 79, Revised Laws, as amended by chapter 116, General Acts of 1916, to the widows of men who served in the Spanish war or the Philippine insurrection between the twenty-first day of April and the fourth day of July in the year 1902.

CHAPTER 116, GENERAL ACTS OF 1916.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF WIDOWS TO RECEIVE SOLDIERS' RELIEF IN CERTAIN INSTANCES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by striking out section eighteen and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 18.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a city or town in the commonwealth, becomes, from any cause except his own criminal or wilful misconduct, poor and entirely or partially unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under the age of sixteen years, or for a dependent father or mother; or if such person dies leaving a widow or such minor children or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support shall be accorded him or his said dependents as may be necessary by the city or town in which they or any of them have a legal settlement; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, shall also be eligible to receive relief under the provisions

Cities and towns to be reimbursed.

endorse the amounts which he has specifically authorized to be paid under and according to his decisions authorized and provided for by section eight of this act. The whole of the amounts legally paid as aforesaid and so allowed for state aid, and all payments to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to military aid, and one half of all payments made to persons of the first or second class entitled to military aid, but none of the expenses attending the payment of state or military aid, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after such expenditure.

Investigating agents, appointment, etc.

SECTION 15. The commissioner may, with the consent of the governor, appoint as occasion may require, one or more disinterested persons who shall investigate any claims against the commonwealth for state or military aid, may examine any persons to or for whom such aid has been paid, investigate the reasons therefor and all matters relating to the granting of such aid, and shall report their doings to the commissioner. The reasonable expenses of the commissioner, and the expenses and compensation of any such disinterested person, approved by said commissioner, and allowed by the governor and council, shall be paid by the commonwealth. Municipal authorities who grant state or military aid shall from time to time after its original allowance make such investigations of the necessities and qualifications of the person aided as to prevent any payment thereof contrary to the provisions of this act.

Municipal authorities to make investigations, etc.

Limitation of provisions.

SECTION 16. The provisions of the preceding sections of this act and of special acts or resolves now or hereafter authorizing the payment of state or military aid to persons therein named, unless expiring by limitation of their own provisions, or unless otherwise provided, shall continue in force until the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and twenty, but such provisions as relate to the settlement of accounts for aid rendered by cities or towns previous to said date and to the reimbursement thereof shall continue in force for one year after said date.

BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS, ETC.

Burial agents in cities and towns, designation, powers and duties.

SECTION 17. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner of state aid, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain after the fourteenth day of February and prior to the twelfth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of

such army nurses as are entitled to state aid under section three of this act, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Spanish war unless she was married to him prior to the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and one. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of the death, and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner of state aid, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

SECTION 18. The expense of such burial shall not exceed fifty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent who caused the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground which is used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part so used of any cemetery or burial ground. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, sailor or marine, the regiment, company or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall be certified under oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the city or town expending the amount, within ninety days after the burial; and said commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as in his judgment have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit such certificate to the auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 19. This act shall take effect on the first day of July in the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, but so far as its provisions are the same as those of existing laws they shall be construed as a continuation thereof. [*Approved May 29, 1914.*]

Expense
of burial
limited, etc.

Relations
may conduct
funeral.

Statement to
be made to
commissioner
of state aid,
etc.

Cities and
towns to be
reimbursed.

When to take
effect, etc.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Chapter 356, Acts of 1898, provides that the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions shall investigate appeals of applicants for soldiers' relief when the municipal authorities refuse or neglect to grant same. Under the provisions of chapter 323, Acts of 1913, soldiers who served during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection, and their dependents, were also made eligible for this relief. Numerous cases have been passed upon by the commissioner, involving considerable investigation, and they have been adjudicated satisfactorily.

I think it advisable to publish the law relating to the disbursing of soldiers' relief, and the amendment which includes Spanish war and Philippine soldiers and their dependents.

CHAPTER 79, SECTIONS 18 AND 19, REVISED LAWS.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

SECTION 18. If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a city or town in the commonwealth, becomes from any cause, except his own criminal or willful misconduct, poor and entirely or partially unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife and minor children under the age of sixteen years, or for a dependent father or mother; or if such person dies leaving a widow or such minor children or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, he or they shall receive such support as may be necessary by the city or town in which they or either of them have a legal settlement. Such relief shall be furnished by the mayor and aldermen or the selectmen or in Boston, subject to the direction of the aldermen thereof as to the amount to be paid to beneficiaries, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, at the home of the beneficiary or at such other place as they deem proper. A beneficiary shall not be required to receive such relief at an almshouse or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires it, or unless he or, if he is a minor, his parents or guardian so elects. Printed reports of cities and towns shall designate such expenditures as soldiers' relief.

SECTION 19. The mayor and aldermen of a city or the selectmen of a town shall furnish such relief without a vote of the city council, or of the town au-

thorizing them thereto. Such relief shall be furnished only by, through or under the agency or direction of city or town officers who are authorized to disburse state or military aid. If the mayor and aldermen or the selectmen fail to furnish it, any person who is aggrieved may apply to the commissioners of state aid, who shall forthwith make a thorough investigation of the qualifications and circumstances of the applicant and shall determine the amount of relief, if any, to be given to him. Their decision shall be final, but may at any time be amended or reversed by them.

CHAPTER 323, ACTS OF 1913.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO SOLDIERS' RELIEF FOR VETERANS OF THE SPANISH AND PHILIPPINE WARS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The provisions of section eighteen of chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws, providing soldiers' relief for veterans of the civil war and persons dependent upon them shall apply also to those, including army nurses, who served in the army or navy or marine corps of the United States during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and July fourth in the year nineteen hundred and two, and to persons dependent upon them.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved March 21, 1913.*]

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following is a detailed statement showing the classes and number of recipients of State and military aid in the cities and towns of this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1914:—

CITIES AND TOWNS.	STATE AID.														MILITARY AID. ¹		Totals.
	CIVIL WAR.							SPANISH WAR.									
	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Civil War.	Spanish War.	
Abington, . . .	20	3	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	55
Acton, . . .	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Acushnet, . . .	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Adams, . . .	8	3	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	20
Agawam, . . .	5	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Alford, . . .	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Amesbury, . . .	17	2	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	44
Amherst, . . .	5	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Andover, . . .	5	1	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	26
Arlington, . . .	13	-	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	34
Ashburnham, . . .	5	1	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Ashby, . . .	8	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Ashfield, . . .	3	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Ashland, . . .	5	1	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Athol, . . .	19	-	29	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	49
ATTLEBORO, . . .	21	1	24	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	46
Auburn, . . .	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
Avon, . . .	9	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Ayer, . . .	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9

¹ Paid to soldiers only.

[illegible]

CITIES AND TOWNS.	STATE AID.												MILITARY AID.		Totals.		
	CIVIL WAR.						SPANISH WAR.						Civil War.	Spanish War.			
	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.				Children.	Army Nurses.
East Bridgewater, .	20	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
East Longmeadow, .	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Eastham, ...	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Easthampton, . .	1	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Easton, ...	5	1	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17
Edgartown, . . .	4	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Egremont, ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Enfield, ...	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Erving, ...	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Essex, ...	9	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
EVERETT, ...	24	2	59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	85
Fairhaven, ...	20	1	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	37
FALL RIVER, . . .	53	5	69	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	128
Falmouth, ...	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
FITCHBURG, ...	15	1	46	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	3	-	66
Florida, ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Foxborough, . . .	15	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Framingham, . . .	21	2	38	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	66
Franklin, ...	7	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Freetown, ...	12	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Gardner, ...	9	1	12	-	-	-	-	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	1	26
Gay Head, ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Georgetown, . . .	24	1	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	48
Gill, ...	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
GLOUCESTER, . . .	37	3	69	1	-	-	-	3	-	-	3	1	-	-	7	4	128
Goshen, ...	1	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Gosnold, ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grafton, ...	7	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	15
Granby, ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Granville, ...	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Great Barrington, .	8	1	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	23
Greenfield, ...	9	1	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	28

CITIES AND TOWNS.	STATE AID.														MILITARY AID. ¹		Totals.
	CIVIL WAR.							SPANISH WAR.									
	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Civil War.	Spanish War.	
Greenwich, . . .	4	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Groton, ...	4	1	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	20
Groveland, . . .	8	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Hadley, ...	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Halifax, ...	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Hamilton, . . .	4	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Hampden, . . .	2	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Hancock, ...	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hanover, ...	10	1	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	31
Hanson, ...	9	-	19	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Hardwick, . . .	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Harvard, ...	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Harwich, ...	13	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	19
Hatfield, ...	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
HAVERHILL, . . .	95	10	122	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	232
Hawley, ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Heath, ...	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Hingham, ...	16	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	33
Hinsdale, ...	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Holbrook, ...	8	1	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	19
Holden, ...	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
Holland, ...	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	3
Holliston, ...	8	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	22
HOLYOKE, ...	5	-	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	4	-	42
Hopedale, ...	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Hopkinton, . . .	13	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
Hubbardston, . . .	9	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Hudson, ...	10	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Hull, ...	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Huntington, . . .	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Hyde Park, ¹ . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ipswich, ...	15	-	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	40

¹ Now in Boston Jurisdiction.

CITIES AND TOWNS.	STATE AID.														MILITARY AID.		Totals.
	CIVIL WAR.							SPANISH WAR.									
	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Civil War.	Spanish War.	
Kingston, . . .	11	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
Lakeville, . . .	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Lancaster, . . .	5	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Lanesborough, . . .	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
LAWRENCE, . . .	20	1	69	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	94
Lee, . . .	8	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	21
Leicester, . . .	4	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Lenox, . . .	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Leominster, . . .	23	2	36	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	61
Leverett, . . .	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Lexington, . . .	4	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Leyden, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Lincoln, . . .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Littleton, . . .	1	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Longmeadow, . . .	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
LOWELL, . . .	71	4	153	-	-	2	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	17	5	258
Ludlow, . . .	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
Lunenburg, . . .	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
LYNN, . . .	149	6	238	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	17	2	415
Lynnfield, . . .	9	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
MALDEN, . . .	43	3	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	130
Manchester, . . .	3	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	16
Mansfield, . . .	10	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	25
Marblehead, . . .	90	10	106	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	212
Marion, . . .	6	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
MARLBOROUGH, . . .	25	3	53	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	82
Marshfield, . . .	18	2	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34
Mashpee, . . .	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Mattapoisett, . . .	8	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Maynard, . . .	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Medfield, . . .	2	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7
MEDFORD, . . .	20	1	64	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	88

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

CITIES AND TOWNS.	STATE AID.														MILITARY AID.		Totals.
	CIVIL WAR.							SPANISH WAR.									
	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Civil War.	Spanish War.	
Wakefield, . . .	18	-	33	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	53
Wales, . . .	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Walpole, . . .	3	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9
WALTHAM, . . .	19	-	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	68
Ware, . . .	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Wareham, . . .	16	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Warren, . . .	2	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Warwick, . . .	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Washington, . . .	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Watertown, . . .	7	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Wayland, . . .	5	-	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
Webster, . . .	5	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
Wellesley, . . .	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Wellfleet, . . .	2	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Wendell, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Wenham, . . .	9	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	13
West Boylston, . . .	5	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	8
West Bridgewater, . . .	9	-	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	22
West Brookfield, . . .	13	2	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
West Newbury, . . .	10	3	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	28
West Springfield, . . .	7	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	21
West Stockbridge, . . .	3	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
West Tisbury, . . .	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Westborough, . . .	16	3	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35
Westfield, . . .	18	1	48	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	73
Westford, . . .	3	-	4	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	9
Westhampton, . . .	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Westminster, . . .	11	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
Weston, . . .	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4
Westport, . . .	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Westwood, . . .	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Weymouth, . . .	38	1	73	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	-	116

CITIES AND TOWNS.	STATE AID.														MILITARY AID.		Totals.
	CIVIL WAR.							SPANISH WAR.							Civil War.	Spanish War.	
	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.	Soldiers.	Wives.	Widows.	Widowed Mothers.	Fathers.	Children.	Army Nurses.			
Whately, ...	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Whitman, ...	27	5	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	86
Wilbraham, . . .	3	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Williamsburg, . .	5	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12
Williamstown, . .	9	1	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	24
Wilmington, . . .	4	2	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11
Winchendon, . . .	5	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	16
Winchester, . . .	5	1	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	16
Windsor, ...	1	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5
Winthrop, ...	2	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	14
WOBURN, ...	21	1	44	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	67
WORCESTER, . . .	104	9	247	-	-	-	-	5	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	17 6	393
Worthington, . . .	4	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6
Wrentham, ...	9	1	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	18
Yarmouth, ...	5	-	4	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	10
	3,976	276	6,375	15	-	6	3	35	1	31	31	2	-	1	194	49	10,995

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

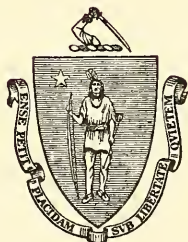
COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

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FOR THE YEAR 1916.



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1917.

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APPROVED BY THE
SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 2, 1917.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 587, Acts of 1914, I have the honor to submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1915, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1916.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Expenditures on account of State and military aid and the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines and their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made under chapter 587, Acts of 1914, by 344 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1915, due and payable Nov. 10, 1916, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, . . .	\$647,252 16
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, . .	5,901 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, . . .	15,268 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, . .	5,132 50
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, . .	25,996 65
Total for 1915, ...	\$699,550 31

The figures above given show an increased disbursement of \$8,372.85 from 1914. This increase was almost wholly caused by an amendment to the State aid law, April 17, 1914, which increased the maximum payment per month from \$4 to \$6 in the cases of wives, widows and mothers of soldiers of the civil and the Spanish wars, as well as army nurses of said wars.

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1915 was 10,937, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	4,066	Decrease, ...	349
Wives, ...	286	Decrease, ...	51
Widows, ...	6,559	Decrease, ...	177
Mothers, ...	15	Decrease, ...	6
Children, ...	8	Increase, ...	2
Army nurses, ...	3		
Total, ...	10,937		

Net decrease of recipients during 1915, 581.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$59.18+.

The burial act has been amended by chapter 191, General Acts of 1916, to include soldiers of the Philippine insurrection who served prior to July 4, 1902, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, as printed below.

CHAPTER 191, GENERAL ACTS OF 1916.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES, WIDOWS, OR DEPENDENT MOTHERS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section seventeen of chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen is hereby amended by inserting after the word "Spain", in the ninth line, the words: — or the Philippine insurrection, — by inserting after the word "February", in the tenth line, the words: — in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, — by striking out the word "twelfth", in the same line, and inserting in place thereof the word: — fourth, — by striking out the words "of August in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight", in the eleventh line, and inserting in place thereof the words: — of July in the year nineteen hundred and two, — by inserting after the word "war", in the twentieth line, the words: — or the Philippine insurrection, — and by striking out the word "one", in the twenty-second line, and inserting in place thereof the word: — ten, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 17.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner of state aid, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain, or the Philippine insurrection, after the fourteenth day of February, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and prior to the fourth day of July in the year nineteen hundred and two, and the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of such army nurses as are entitled to state aid under section three of this act, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of the death, and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner of state aid, he may certify the same as provided in the following section. [Approved May 10, 1916.]

TOTAL PAYMENTS SINCE 1861.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court towards maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, from 1861 to the close of 1915, were . . .		\$40,022,435 32
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1915, paid in 1916, ...	699,550 31	
Special laws, 1916, ...	812 00	
Soldiers' Home, 1916, ...	104,065 00	
		\$40,826,862 63
Returned to the State treasury in the case of George W. Prescott (burial), ...		37 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1916, ...		\$40,826,825 63

PERSONNEL OF OFFICE.

In relation to the personnel of this office during the past year, James F. Ward, a civil war soldier, was appointed to the position of deputy commissioner of State aid and pensions, vice Richard R. Flynn, who was promoted to the position of Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions. Mr. Ward qualified and reported for duty Jan. 6, 1916.

On Jan. 31, 1916, Edwin C. Stone, agent, was retired at his own request under the provisions of chapter 458, Acts of 1907, applicable to civil war veterans. In the responsible position which he held for twenty-seven years, he was obliged to visit cities and towns throughout the State to examine the recipients of State and military aid, in order to determine their physical and financial condition, the duties at all times being arduous. His valuable service was appreciated by the State, and he retired with the honors due a faithful, conscientious, public servant.

Wilfred A. Wetherbee, a veteran of the civil war, was appointed agent Feb. 1, 1916, to fill the vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Stone.

On Feb. 1, 1916, also, Romanus Emerson, a civil war veteran, was appointed to the position of special agent in this department.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE.

The mobilizing of the Massachusetts National Guard for service on the Mexican Border on June 18, 1916, at the call of the President, was the occasion for new legislation by the General Court of Massachusetts to make provision for aiding dependents while the soldiers were in the Federal service.

Chapter 314, General Acts of 1916, authorized the cities and towns of this Commonwealth to raise money and expend it for the aid of the wife, widow, children under sixteen years of age, parents, brothers and sisters dependent upon any inhabitant who enlisted as a part of the quota of this Commonwealth, in the same manner and under the same limitations as State aid is paid to soldiers and sailors of the civil war and the war with Spain, except as to the amount to be paid, which cannot exceed \$30 on account of the total aid rendered to all dependent relatives of any one soldier in any one month.

The Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions was given general charge of the disbursement of aid under this chapter. The necessary blanks were promptly supplied, and the municipal authorities charged with the payment of State aid were informed in regard to the law, and printed instructions as to the method of procedure and the application of the act were mailed to them. This involved much additional work, and entailed an expense of approximately \$434 for extra clerical service, printing, stationery, etc., and there has been expended for beneficiaries under this act about \$43,000.

The law providing aid for certain dependents of Mexican Border soldiers expires by limitation on Jan. 15, 1917. As there are at present several units of the Massachusetts National Guardsmen in the Federal service, it will be necessary to extend the date of eligibility to May 1, 1917, so that their dependents may continue to receive State aid up to the time of the muster-out of the soldiers. In my opinion, the provisions of the State aid law should also apply to the widow and children up to the age of sixteen, provided that the soldier or sailor died in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom of disability incurred in said service, and further provided that said children

are born prior to their fathers' discharge from the service or prior to May 1, 1917.

The act of Sept. 14, 1916, relating to Massachusetts soldiers in the Mexican Border service, is printed below.

CHAPTER 314, GENERAL ACTS OF 1916.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE AID FOR CERTAIN DEPENDENT RELATIVES OF SOLDIERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN THE FEDERAL SERVICE ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Any city or town may raise money by taxation or otherwise, and if necessary expend the same, by the officers authorized by law to furnish state and military aid, for the aid of the wife, widow, children under sixteen years of age, parents, brothers and sisters actually dependent upon any inhabitant of such city or town having a residence and actually residing therein, who has enlisted, or hereafter shall be duly enlisted and mustered into the military service of the United States as a part of the quota of this commonwealth called for service on the Mexican border, up to January fifteenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, unless the said service is sooner terminated, in the same manner and under the same limitations, except as hereinafter provided, as state aid is paid to dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors of the civil war and the war with Spain.

SECTION 2. Persons who incur disabilities in such service and who are honorably discharged therefrom shall be eligible to receive state and military aid under the same rules, conditions and limitations as to amounts as now govern applicants for aid under chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen.

SECTION 3. Applicants for such aid shall, as a basis for the first payment thereof, state in writing, under oath, the name, age and residence of the person for whom such aid is sought, the relationship of the applicant to the soldier, the company and regiment in which such soldier is enlisted and in which he last served, the date and place of such enlistment, when known, the duration of such service and the reason for the application, and shall furnish such official certificate or record, evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of state aid and pensions shall furnish, from time to time, to each city and town a sufficient number of blank forms for the use of applicants; shall decide all questions in dispute between applicants and the municipal authorities; shall investigate all payments of such aid; shall have power to determine all incidental questions arising in connection therewith; and shall have the custody of the original papers relating to each application.

SECTION 5. Municipal officers making payments under this act shall make return of the same to the commissioner of state aid and pensions on

blank forms furnished by said commissioner, in the manner prescribed by chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, except that so much of section six of said chapter as relates to the maximum aid to be allowed shall not apply. The said commissioner shall prescribe rules as to the amount and the disbursement of relief to the dependents of soldiers during the period such soldiers are in the actual service of the United States, and reimbursement shall be made to the city or town from the treasury of the commonwealth for amounts actually expended: *provided*, that in no case shall more than thirty dollars be reimbursed on account of the total aid rendered to all dependent relatives of any one soldier in any one month. All sums expended by cities and towns in excess of the amount so authorized shall be borne by the respective city or town in which the recipient has a legal settlement, in the form of soldiers' relief; but in the case of dependents of an unsettled soldier, the amount expended by cities and towns in excess of the limit prescribed, after determination by the commissioner of state aid and pensions as to how much relief is necessary to afford reasonable support, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth.

SECTION 6. Cities and towns, to meet liabilities incurred under the provisions of this act, are hereby authorized to borrow in excess of the statutory limit for a period not exceeding one year such sums as may be required, and to issue notes therefor to be payable in not more than one year from the date of issue.

SECTION 7. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any inhabitant of this commonwealth who has enlisted, or who may hereafter enlist, in the corps of other states or territories.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved September 14, 1916.*]

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a detailed statement of the business of the pension department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1916:—

Number of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (Act of May 11, 1912), ...	253
Soldiers (general law, original), ...	16
Soldiers (general law, increase), ...	13
Widows, ...	648
Reimbursement, ...	130
New pension certificates, ...	11
Mothers, ...	4
Guardians, ...	5
Wives (one-half pension), ...	2
Wife to draw without guardianship, ...	2
Restoration, ...	3
Ten years' service, ...	1
Payment of unendorsed check, ...	3
Medal of honor pension, ...	3
Removal (charge desertion), ...	1
Gratuity, ...	1
Old claims, ...	12
Total, ...	1,108
Number of claims allowed, ...	505
Number of claims rejected, ...	39

On Sept. 8, 1916, a pension act went into effect increasing the pensions of widows of the civil war, the war with Mexico and the war of 1812, who had reached the age of seventy years, from \$12 to \$20 per month, and restoring to the pension rolls on application those widows who had heretofore received pensions and lost them through remarriage.

To be eligible for restoration the widow must prove the death of any subsequent husband, or her divorce from him.

The above-mentioned act, which is printed below, also changed the date of eligibility as to marriage for civil war widows from June 27, 1890, to June 27, 1905.

[PUBLIC — No. 278 — 64TH CONGRESS.]

[H. R. 11707.]

AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO INCREASE THE PENSIONS OF WIDOWS, MINOR CHILDREN, AND SO FORTH, OF DECEASED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE LATE CIVIL WAR, THE WAR WITH MEXICO, THE VARIOUS INDIAN WARS, AND SO FORTH, AND TO GRANT A PENSION TO CERTAIN WIDOWS OF THE DECEASED SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE LATE CIVIL WAR," APPROVED APRIL NINETEENTH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND EIGHT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That from and after the passage of this Act the rate of pension for a widow, now on the roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll and entitled to receive a less rate than hereinafter provided, who was the lawful wife of any officer or enlisted man in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States, during the period of his service in the Civil War, shall be \$20 per month, and the rate of pension for a widow of an officer or enlisted man of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States who served in the Civil War, the War with Mexico, or the War of Eighteen hundred and twelve, now on the roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll and entitled to receive a less rate than hereafter provided, who has reached or shall hereafter reach the age of seventy years shall be \$20 per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the existing allowance of \$2 per month for each child under the age of sixteen years and for each helpless child; and all Acts or parts of Acts inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed: *Provided, however,* That this Act shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private.

SEC. 2. That any widow of an officer or enlisted man who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War whose name was placed or shall hereafter be placed on the pension roll, under any existing law, and whose name has been or shall hereafter be dropped from said pension roll by reason of her marriage to another person who has since died or shall hereafter die, or from whom she has been heretofore or shall be hereafter divorced upon her own application and without fault on her part, shall be entitled to have her name again placed on the pension roll at the rate allowed by the law under which she was formerly pensioned, and the law or laws amendatory thereof, unless she be entitled to a greater rate of pension under the provisions of section one of this Act, such pension to commence from the date of filing her application in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage of this Act: *Provided, however,* That where the pension of said widow on her second or subsequent marriage has accrued to a helpless or idiotic child,

or a child or children under the age of sixteen years, she shall not be entitled to renewal under this Act unless said helpless or idiotic child, or child or children under sixteen years of age, be then a member or members of her family and cared for by her, and upon the renewal of pension to said widow payment of pension to said child or children shall cease: *And provided further*, That the provisions of this Act shall be extended to those widows, otherwise entitled, whose husbands died of wounds, injuries, or disease incurred during the period of their military or naval service, but who were deprived of pension under the Act of March third, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, because of their failure to draw any pensions by reason of their remarriage, and to any person who was lawfully married to an officer or enlisted man, who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War and was honorably discharged therefrom and has since deceased, and who, having remarried since his death is again a widow, or has been divorced from her last husband upon her own application without fault on her part and who, otherwise entitled, was barred by reason of such remarriage from receiving pension under any existing law.

SEC. 3. That any widow, as described in section two of the Act approved April nineteenth, nineteen hundred and eight, who married the soldier or sailor prior to June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and five, shall have title to pension under the provisions of said section of said Act, to commence from the date of filing her application in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage of this Act: *Provided, however*, That where a pension has been granted to a soldier's or sailor's helpless or idiotic child or children, or child or children under the age of sixteen years, his widow shall not be entitled to pension under this section, unless the pension to such child or children has terminated, or unless such child or children be a member or members of her family and cared for by her, and upon allowance of pension to the widow, payment of pension to such child or children shall cease.

SEC. 4. That no claim agent or attorney shall be recognized in the adjudication of claims under the first section of this Act, nor shall any claim agent or attorney be recognized in the adjudication of claims under the second section of this Act for renewal of pension previously allowed, and in claims for original pension under section two of this Act no greater sum than \$10 shall be allowed for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting such claim, which sum shall be payable only upon the order of the Commissioner of Pensions under such rules and regulations as he may deem proper to make.

Approved, September 8, 1916.

This pension act went into effect at about the same time that the Legislature enacted laws for the aiding of dependents of Mexican Border soldiers. The office force put forth their best endeavor to meet the exigencies of the situation, and the successful accomplishment of the work is largely due to their efforts.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Under the provisions of chapter 356, Acts of 1898, the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions is charged with the investigation of the appeals of soldiers and their dependents who have applied for soldiers' relief, and whose applications have been refused or neglected by the municipal authorities.

Chapter 323, Acts of 1913, amended the soldiers' relief law to include soldiers and sailors who served in the war with Spain and the Philippine insurrection, and their dependents.

Chapter 116, General Acts of 1916, which is also an amendment to the soldiers' relief law, provides that the widows of those civil war veterans who had all the qualifications except settlement shall also be eligible to be considered for soldiers' relief, provided that they gained a settlement in their own right prior to Jan. 1, 1910. The soldiers' relief act up to the passage of this chapter allowed aid only to those widows who had acquired a legal settlement through their soldier or sailor husbands.

Many appeals have been submitted to this department under the soldiers' relief law, necessitating much investigation as to legal settlements and the need of the aggrieved parties before adjudication.

Chapter 116, General Acts of 1916, referred to above, is printed below.

CHAPTER 116, GENERAL ACTS OF 1916.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF WIDOWS TO RECEIVE SOLDIERS' RELIEF IN CERTAIN INSTANCES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by striking out section eighteen and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 18.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a city or town in the commonwealth, becomes, from any cause except his

own criminal or wilful misconduct, poor and entirely or partially unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under the age of sixteen years, or for a dependent father or mother; or if such person dies leaving a widow or such minor children or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support shall be accorded him or his said dependents as may be necessary by the city or town in which they or any of them have a legal settlement; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, shall also be eligible to receive relief under the provisions of this section. Such relief shall be furnished by the mayor and aldermen or the selectmen, or, in the city of Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive such relief at home, or at such other place as the mayor and aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner, may deem proper, but he shall not be required to receive the same at an almshouse or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires it, or unless his parents or guardian so elects, in case he is a minor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on its passage. [*Approved April 10, 1916.*]

The thanks of this department are due Hon. G. M. Saltz-gaber, United States Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., and his entire office force. Our claims have always received the most courteous attention, and have been promptly and satisfactorily adjudicated.

This department is often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed their claims through other attorneys, and to advise regarding the method of procedure in procuring evidence to complete such claims, which do not appear in our records or in the above summary.

Since the return of the Massachusetts Guardsmen from the Mexican Border about 2,000 soldiers have called at this office for information in regard to the congressional act passed for the support of their dependents while they were in the Federal service.

They were supplied with application blanks, which this department procured from the Quartermaster-General, War Department, Washington, D. C., in order to assist the soldiers and expedite the adjudication of their claims, and were instructed as to the method of procedure in order to procure the benefit of this act.

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following statement shows the total number of State and military aid recipients in the cities and towns of this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1915, as compared with the number of recipients Dec. 31, 1914: —

	1914.	1915.		1914.	1915.
Abington, ...	55	56	Bernardston, ...	2	1
Acton, ...	13	13	BEVERLY, ...	129	137
Acushnet, ...	4	4	Billerica, ...	13	14
Adams, ...	20	20	Blackstone, ...	19	19
Agawam, ...	8	8	Blandford, ...	6	6
Alford, ...	1	1	Bolton, ...	9	8
Amesbury, ...	44	43	BOSTON, ...	1,379	1,258
Amherst, ...	16	16	Bourne, ...	11	9
Andover, ...	26	25	Boxborough, ...	2	2
Arlington, ...	34	34	Boxford, ...	5	5
Ashburnham, ...	11	11	Boylston, ...	9	8
Ashby, ...	11	7	Braintree, ...	38	38
Ashfield, ...	10	9	Brewster, ...	7	6
Ashland, ...	20	21	Bridgewater, ...	24	25
Athol, ...	49	47	Brimfield, ...	4	3
ATTLEBORO, ...	46	40	BROCKTON, ...	261	230
Auburn, ...	8	8	Brookfield, ...	23	22
Avon, ...	15	16	Brookline, ...	27	28
Ayer, ...	9	9	Buckland, ...	10	11
Barnstable, ...	30	26	Burlington, ...	3	3
Barre, ...	8	8	CAMBRIDGE, ...	182	165
Becket, ...	8	8	Canton, ...	8	7
Bedford, ...	4	4	Carlisle, ...	5	5
Belchertown, ...	32	29	Carver, ...	12	10
Bellingham, ...	6	8	Charlemont, ...	1	1
Belmont, ...	11	13	Charlton, ...	15	14
Berkley, ...	4	3	Chatham, ...	12	11
Berlin, ...	11	10	Chelmsford, ...	15	16

	1914.	1915.		1914.	1915.
CHELSEA, ...	74	61	Falmouth, ...	9	8
Cheshire, ...	13	13	FITCHBURG, ...	66	64
Chester, ...	5	5	Florida, ...	—	—
Chesterfield, ...	9	9	Foxborough, ...	24	23
CHICOPEE, ...	15	17	Framingham, ...	66	62
Chilmark, ...	—	—	Franklin, ...	20	22
Clarksburg, ...	3	4	Freetown, ...	19	17
Clinton, ...	24	22	Gardner, ...	26	24
Cohasset, ...	13	12	Gay Head, ...	—	—
Colrain, ...	5	6	Georgetown, ...	48	43
Concord, ...	8	10	Gill, ...	2	1
Conway, ...	4	4	GLOUCESTER, ...	128	123
Cummington, ...	6	5	Goshen, ...	4	3
Dalton, ...	20	18	Gosnold, ...	—	—
Dana, ...	10	11	Grafton, ...	15	15
Danvers, ...	82	75	Granby, ...	2	1
Dartmouth, ...	16	14	Granville, ...	4	2
Dedham, ...	25	21	Great Barrington, ...	23	21
Deerfield, ...	11	10	Greenfield, ...	28	27
Dennis, ...	15	16	Greenwich, ...	5	6
Dighton, ...	13	13	Groton, ...	20	16
Douglas, ...	11	10	Groveland, ...	19	19
Dover, ...	4	4	Hadley, ...	1	1
Dracut, ...	5	4	Halifax, ...	3	3
Dudley, ...	1	1	Hamilton, ...	9	8
Dunstable, ...	—	—	Hampden, ...	7	7
Duxbury, ...	23	23	Hancock, ...	—	—
East Bridgewater, ...	35	33	Hanover, ...	31	31
East Longmeadow, ...	2	2	Hanson, ...	28	28
Eastham, ...	3	2	Hardwick, ...	3	1
Easthampton, ...	6	5	Harvard, ...	3	2
Easton, ...	17	21	Harwich, ...	19	17
Edgartown, ...	12	12	Hatfield, ...	3	3
Egremont, ...	—	1	HAVERHILL, ...	232	212
Enfield, ...	7	7	Hawley, ...	2	2
Erving, ...	7	4	Heath, ...	2	2
Essex, ...	22	21	Hingham, ...	33	34
EVERETT, ...	85	77	Hinsdale, ...	5	4
Fairhaven, ...	37	35	Holbrook, ...	19	20
FALL RIVER, ...	128	123	Holden, ...	9	9

	1914.	1915.		1914.	1915.
Holland, ...	3	4	Medfield, ...	7	7
Holliston, ...	22	18	MEDFORD, ...	88	79
HOLYOKE, ...	42	40	Medway, ...	37	34
Hopedale, ...	7	7	MELROSE, ...	42	47
Hopkinton, ...	28	27	Mendon, ...	6	4
Hubbardston, ...	18	14	Merrimac, ...	17	18
Hudson, ...	24	23	Methuen, ...	21	19
Hull, ...	4	2	Middleborough, ...	83	78
Huntington, ...	7	7	Middlefield, ...	2	2
Ipswich, ...	40	37	Middleton, ...	18	19
Kingston, ...	22	18	Milford, ...	67	63
Lakeville, ...	4	2	Millbury, ...	22	21
Lancaster, ...	7	10	Millis, ...	2	2
Lanesborough, ...	6	6	Milton, ...	17	15
LAWRENCE, ...	94	86	Monroe, ...	-	-
Lee, ...	21	21	Monson, ...	18	16
Leicester, ...	13	13	Montague, ...	27	27
Lenox, ...	4	4	Monterey, ...	2	2
LEOMINSTER, ...	61	51	Montgomery, ...	1	1
Leverett, ...	6	6	Mount Washington, ...	-	-
Lexington, ...	12	10	Nahant, ...	4	5
Leyden, ...	2	2	Nantucket, ...	32	31
Lincoln, ...	-	-	Natick, ...	65	70
Littleton, ...	4	2	Needham, ...	15	12
Longmeadow, ...	1	3	New Ashford, ...	1	1
LOWELL, ...	258	231	NEW BEDFORD, ...	223	201
Ludlow, ...	7	7	New Braintree, ...	2	2
Lunenburg, ...	5	4	New Marlborough, ...	6	7
LYNN, ...	415	421	New Salem, ...	9	10
Lynnfield, ...	13	13	Newbury, ...	33	29
MALDEN, ...	130	126	NEWBURYPORT, ...	139	141
Manchester, ...	16	16	NEWTON, ...	55	49
Mansfield, ...	25	26	Norfolk, ...	5	6
Marblehead, ...	212	188	NORTH ADAMS, ...	53	49
Marion, ...	11	10	North Andover, ...	16	16
MARLBOROUGH, ...	82	77	North Attleborough, ...	14	17
Marshfield, ...	34	35	North Brookfield, ...	14	14
Mashpee, ...	4	4	North Reading, ...	21	18
Mattapoisett, ...	14	12	NORTHAMPTON, ...	55	47
Maynard, ...	6	6	Northborough, ...	10	8

	1914.	1915.		1914.	1915.
Northbridge, . . .	8	9	Royalston, . . .	9	6
Northfield, . . .	7	7	Russell, . . .	1	1
Norton, . . .	15	18	Rutland, . . .	6	6
Norwell, . . .	30	30	Salem, . . .	216	195
Norwood, . . .	14	14	Salisbury, . . .	29	28
Oak Bluffs, . . .	8	6	Sandisfield, . . .	5	4
Oakham, . . .	3	4	Sandwich, . . .	12	11
Orange, . . .	33	34	Saugus, . . .	51	46
Orleans, . . .	7	6	Savoy, . . .	4	4
Otis, . . .	7	6	Scituate, . . .	34	36
Oxford, . . .	17	17	Seekonk, . . .	8	5
Palmer, . . .	13	14	Sharon, . . .	15	12
Paxton, . . .	3	4	Sheffield, . . .	14	12
Peabody, . . .	68	69	Shelburne, . . .	8	10
Pelham, . . .	4	4	Sherborn, . . .	5	2
Pembroke, . . .	35	34	Shirley, . . .	6	5
Pepperell, . . .	11	12	Shrewsbury, . . .	15	14
Peru, . . .	2	1	Shutesbury, . . .	1	1
Petersham, . . .	10	10	Somerset, . . .	14	14
Phillipston, . . .	2	2	SOMERVILLE, . . .	272	256
PITTSFIELD, . . .	69	67	South Hadley, . . .	10	9
Plainfield, . . .	2	2	Southampton, . . .	3	3
Plainville, . . .	5	4	Southborough, . . .	18	16
Plymouth, . . .	66	60	Southbridge, . . .	17	17
Plympton, . . .	10	11	Southwick, . . .	8	7
Prescott, . . .	3	3	Spencer, . . .	33	33
Princeton, . . .	5	6	SPRINGFIELD, . . .	213	204
Provincetown, . . .	13	11	Sterling, . . .	11	12
QUINCY, . . .	80	75	Stockbridge, . . .	13	13
Randolph, . . .	54	54	Stoneham, . . .	66	56
Raynham, . . .	14	14	Stoughton, . . .	58	60
Reading, . . .	33	31	Stow, . . .	5	4
Rehoboth, . . .	7	8	Sturbridge, . . .	8	6
REVERE, . . .	36	33	Sudbury, . . .	7	5
Richmond, . . .	2	2	Sunderland, . . .	1	1
Rochester, . . .	6	7	Sutton, . . .	20	16
Rockland, . . .	81	77	Swampscott, . . .	47	41
Rockport, . . .	36	33	Swansea, . . .	4	4
Rowe, . . .	4	3	TAUNTON, . . .	115	108
Rowley, . . .	16	15	Templeton, . . .	8	6

	1914.	1915.		1914.	1915.
Tewksbury, ...	1	1	West Newbury, ...	23	24
Tisbury, ...	5	5	West Springfield, ...	21	22
Tolland, ...	1	1	West Stockbridge, ...	4	4
Topsfield, ...	10	9	West Tisbury, ...	2	1
Townsend, ...	11	12	Westborough, ...	35	31
Truro, ...	3	4	Westfield, ...	73	71
Tyngsborough, ...	2	2	Westford, ...	9	8
Tyringham, ...	1	1	Westhampton, ...	1	1
Upton, ...	27	24	Westminster, ...	14	14
Uxbridge, ...	9	9	Weston, ...	4	4
Wakefield, ...	53	50	Westport, ...	5	4
Wales, ...	6	3	Westwood, ...	2	1
Walpole, ...	9	9	Weymouth, ...	116	110
WALTHAM, ...	63	61	Whately, ...	3	3
Ware, ...	10	8	Whitman, ...	83	85
Wareham, ...	32	34	Wilbraham, ...	5	5
Warren, ...	13	12	Williamsburg, ...	12	9
Warwick, ...	1	1	Williamstown, ...	24	24
Washington, ...	1	1	Wilmington, ...	11	7
Watertown, ...	16	18	Winchendon, ...	16	14
Wayland, ...	13	14	Winchester, ...	16	14
Webster, ...	10	12	Windsor, ...	5	4
Wellesley, ...	5	4	Winthrop, ...	14	17
Wellfleet, ...	5	5	WOBURN, ...	67	47
Wendell, ...	2	2	WORCESTER, ...	393	366
Wenham, ...	13	12	Worthington, ...	6	4
West Boylston, ...	8	6	Wrentham, ...	18	18
West Bridgewater, . . .	22	22	Yarmouth, ...	10	10
West Brookfield, . . .	18	17		10,995	10,334

This department has been asked why the amounts paid to the various cities and towns on account of State and military aid and burials were not published in our annual report. An itemized account thereof appears in the annual report of the State Auditor, and the expense of reprinting would not, therefore, be justified.

ANNUAL REPORT

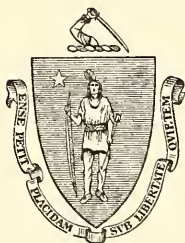
OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

FOR THE YEAR 1917.



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1918.

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APPROVED BY THE
SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 2, 1918.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 587, Acts of 1914, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1916, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1917.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars and the Mexican Border service and their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, and also disbursements on account of the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars and the Philippine insurrection and their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made by 344 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1916, due and payable Nov. 10, 1917, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, . . .	\$614,892 67
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, . .	5,328 00
State aid to dependents, Mexican border service, . . .	42,643 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, . . .	13,164 25
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, . .	4,806 50
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, . .	23,863 22
Total for 1916, ...	\$704,698 14

The above figures show an increased expenditure of \$5,147.83 from 1915, which was due to the passage of the act authorizing payment of aid for the dependents of men who had been called into service for duty on the Mexican Border.

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1916, was 10,186, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	3,662	Decrease, ...	404
Wives, ...	232	Decrease, ...	54
Widows, ...	6,270	Decrease, ...	289
Mothers, ...	13	Decrease, ...	2
Children, ...	7	Decrease, ...	1
Army nurses, ...	2	Decrease, ...	1
Total, ...	10,186		

Net decrease of recipients during 1916, 751.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.36+.

The total number of State aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1916, was 107, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	39	Decrease, ...	7
Wives, ...	1		
Widows, ...	33	Decrease, ...	2
Mothers, ...	30	Decrease, ...	3
Fathers, ...	2		
Army nurses, ...	2	Increase, ...	1
Total, ...	107		

Net decrease of recipients during 1916, 11.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$49.79+.

The total number of recipients of State aid, Mexican Border service, for the year 1916, was 1,119, classified as follows:—

Wives, ...	408
Mothers, ...	625
Fathers, ...	44
Children, ...	13
Sisters, ...	21
Brothers, ...	8
Total, ...	1,119

Average cost to State per person aided, \$38.10+.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$17,970.75 — a decrease of \$2,429.75 from 1916 — was disbursed as follows: —

Civil war: —			
Soldiers,	 180	Decrease,	 28
Spanish war: —			
Soldiers,	 65	Decrease,	 11
Civil war: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2,			\$12,948 25
Average cost to State per person aided, \$73.15+.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4,			216 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$72.00.			
Spanish war: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2,			4,287 50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$71.45+.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4,			519 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$103.80+.			
Total,			\$17,970 75

Recipients of military aid, under classes 1 and 2, have a legal settlement in the city or town paying such aid, and therefore one-half of the amount disbursed under these classes is reimbursed to the cities and towns making the expenditure.

Recipients of military aid, under classes 3 and 4, have not acquired a legal settlement in any city or town in this Commonwealth, and the whole of the amount disbursed under these classes is reimbursed to the various cities and towns by the Commonwealth.

Military aid can be paid only to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars and the Mexican Border service, not to their dependents. Applicants for this form of aid are required to furnish medical certificates showing the nature and extent of their disability.

I take this occasion to extend the thanks of this department to Col. Frank P. Williams, surgeon-general of the Commonwealth, and to his office staff, for the excellent service rendered to this department by the medical examination of military aid applicants living in Boston and vicinity. These examinations

have been made by him without any expense to said applicants, and were of great assistance in the adjudication of these cases.

The agents have visited 124 cities and towns for the purpose of determining the physical and financial condition of recipients of State and military aid, and have examined 3,678 cases.

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses under Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, as amended by Chapter 191, Acts of 1916.

The above chapters make provision for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars and the Philippine insurrection, their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who die without sufficient means to defray their funeral expenses. The payment of not exceeding \$50 can be allowed in each case within the provisions of the burial act.

The total number of burials for 1916 was 498, classified as follows: —

Civil war: —					
Soldiers,	.	.	.	289	Decrease, ... 23
Wives,	.	.	.	17	
Widows,	.	.	.	165	Decrease, ... 7
Mothers,	.	.	.	2	Increase, ... 1
Army nurses,	.	.	.	—	Decrease, ... 1
				—473	
Spanish war: —					
Soldiers,	.	.	.	24	Increase, ... 1
Mothers,	.	.	.	—	Decrease, ... 2
				— 24	
Philippine insurrection: —					
Wives,	.	.	.	1	Increase, ... 1
				—	
Total,	.	.	.	498	

Net decrease during 1916 (new legislation), 30.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$47.91+.

The Burial Law under Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, Sections 17 to 19, as amended by Chapter 191, General Acts of 1916, to include Soldiers of the Philippine Insurrection who served prior to July 4, 1902, and their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and by Chapter 160, General Acts of 1917, which raises the Limit of the Total Amount of the Burial Expense to \$110.

SECTION 17. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner of state aid, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain, or the Philippine insurrection, after the fourteenth day of February, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and prior to the fourth day of July in the year nineteen hundred and two, and the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of such army nurses as are entitled to state aid under section three of this act, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of the death, and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner of state aid, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

SECTION 18. The expense of such burial shall not exceed fifty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent who caused the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred and ten dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground which is used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part so used of any cemetery or burial ground. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, sailor or marine, the regiment, company or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the com-

missioner of state aid may require, shall be certified under oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the city or town expending the amount, within ninety days after the burial; and said commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as in his judgment have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit such certificate to the auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 19. This act shall take effect on the first day of July in the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, but so far as its provisions are the same as those of existing laws they shall be construed as a continuation thereof.

STATE AID AND BOUNTIES.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court towards maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, from 1861 to the close of 1916, were . . .		\$40,826,825 63
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1916, paid in 1917, ...		704,698 14
Special laws, 1917, ...		812 00
Soldiers' Home, 1917, ...		109,250 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1917, ...		\$41,641,585 77

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers and sailors in the civil war to Dec. 1, 1916, ...		\$17,872,859 82
Gratuities (Acts of 1912, chapter 702; 1913, chapters 105 and 443), ...	569,000 00	
		18,441,859 82
Total to Dec. 1, 1917, ...		\$60,083,445 59

Up to the passage of chapter 161, General Acts of 1917, widows of Spanish war soldiers or sailors otherwise eligible as second-class recipients of State aid under section 3, chapter 587, Acts of 1914, were obliged to submit proof that their husbands' death was caused by wounds or disability incurred in line of

duty. The removal of this condition of eligibility by the above-mentioned chapter has made it possible to pay State aid to those widows who would otherwise be ineligible to receive it.

CHAPTER 161, GENERAL ACTS OF 1917.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FURNISHING OF AID TO CHILDREN AND WIDOWED MOTHERS OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS WHO SERVED IN THE WAR WITH SPAIN.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

The paragraph relating to the second class of recipients of state aid in section three of chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen is hereby amended by striking out the words "of wounds or disease incurred in such service", in the fourteenth and fifteenth lines, — so that said paragraph will read as follows: — Second Class, Dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors who served in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners, and who, if they did not continue in the service of the United States awaiting discharge upon the official proclamation ending the war with Spain, or did not die in the service above defined for invalid pensioners, were honorably discharged therefrom, as follows: — The wives and widowed mothers of such invalid pensioners who served in the civil war, and the widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors dying in such service or after their honorable discharge therefrom, and the widows, children and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom, or dying while in receipt of a pension of the United States and the state aid of this commonwealth, and the wives, children and widowed mothers of such invalid pensioners who served in the war with Spain. Such children shall not be more than fourteen years of age, and shall have been born prior to their father's discharge from said service and prior to the date of said proclamation. There shall also be included in this class the crippled or otherwise helpless children, whether minors or adults, of soldiers or sailors who served in either of the said wars: *provided*, that such children are in receipt of a pension from the United States. [Approved April 10, 1917.]

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE.

The mobilization of the Massachusetts National Guard on June 18, 1916, for service on the Mexican Border was the cause of legislation by the General Court to provide State aid for the soldiers' dependents in the same general manner and under the same limitations as State aid was allowed during the civil and Spanish wars, except that the act of Sept. 14, 1916 —

chapter 314, General Acts of 1916 — permitted the increasing of the maximum amount that could be paid to all the dependents of any one soldier in any one month prior to the passage of this act from not exceeding \$12 per month to not exceeding \$30 per month.

The Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions was directed to disburse aid under this chapter, and was charged with the execution of the law, which authorized cities and towns to raise money and expend it for the aid of the wife, widow, children under sixteen years of age, parents, brothers and sisters dependent upon any inhabitant who enlisted as a part of the quota of Massachusetts.

Under the operation of this act in 1916 the amount expended for printing and extra clerical service was \$518.01, and the sum of \$42,643.50 was disbursed as State aid for dependents.

Chapter 314, General Acts of 1916, applicable to Mexican Border service, was amended by chapter 5, General Acts of 1917, which made eligible to receive State aid the widows and children under sixteen years of age of any soldier who died from disabilities, either in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom, provided that such children were born prior to their fathers' honorable discharge from the service, or prior to Jan. 1, 1918.

Chapter 314, General Acts of 1916, and the amendment thereto, chapter 5, General Acts of 1917, are printed below.

CHAPTER 314, GENERAL ACTS OF 1916.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE AID FOR CERTAIN DEPENDENT RELATIVES OF SOLDIERS OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN THE FEDERAL SERVICE ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Any city or town may raise money by taxation or otherwise, and if necessary expend the same, by the officers authorized by law to furnish state and military aid, for the aid of the wife, widow, children under sixteen years of age, parents, brothers and sisters actually dependent upon any inhabitant of such city or town having a residence and actually residing therein, who has enlisted, or hereafter shall be duly enlisted and mustered into the military service of the United States as a part of the quota of this commonwealth called for service on the Mexican Border, up to January fifteenth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, unless the said service is sooner terminated, in the same manner and under the

same limitations, except as hereinafter provided, as state aid is paid to dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors of the Civil War and the war with Spain.

SECTION 2. Persons who incur disabilities in such service and who are honorably discharged therefrom shall be eligible to receive state and military aid under the same rules, conditions and limitations as to amounts as now govern applicants for aid under chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen.

Section 3. Applicants for such aid shall, as a basis for the first payment thereof, state in writing, under oath, the name, age and residence of the person for whom such aid is sought, the relationship of the applicant to the soldier, the company and regiment in which such soldier is enlisted and in which he last served, the date and place of such enlistment, when known, the duration of such service and the reason for the application, and shall furnish such official certificate or record, evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of state aid and pensions shall furnish, from time to time, to each city and town a sufficient number of blank forms for the use of applicants; shall decide all questions in dispute between applicants and the municipal authorities; shall investigate all payments of such aid; shall have power to determine all incidental questions arising in connection therewith; and shall have the custody of the original papers relating to each application.

SECTION 5. Municipal officers making payments under this act shall make return of the same to the commissioner of state aid and pensions on blank forms furnished by said commissioner, in the manner prescribed by chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, except that so much of section six of said chapter as relates to the maximum aid to be allowed shall not apply. The said commissioner shall prescribe rules as to the amount and the disbursement of relief to the dependents of soldiers during the period such soldiers are in the actual service of the United States, and reimbursement shall be made to the city or town from the treasury of the commonwealth for amounts actually expended: *provided*, that in no case shall more than thirty dollars be reimbursed on account of the total aid rendered to all dependent relatives of any one soldier in any one month. All sums expended by cities and towns in excess of the amount so authorized shall be borne by the respective city or town in which the recipient has a legal settlement, in the form of soldiers' relief; but in the case of dependents of an unsettled soldier, the amount expended by cities and towns in excess of the limit prescribed, after determination by the commissioner of state aid and pensions as to how much relief is necessary to afford reasonable support, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth.

SECTION 6. Cities and towns, to meet liabilities incurred under the provisions of this act, are hereby authorized to borrow in excess of the statutory limit for a period not exceeding one year such sums as may be

required, and to issue notes therefor to be payable in not more than one year from the date of issue.

SECTION 7. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any inhabitant of this commonwealth who has enlisted, or who may hereafter enlist, in the corps of other states or territories.

SECTION 8. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved September 14, 1916.*]

CHAPTER 5, GENERAL ACTS OF 1917.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE AID FOR CERTAIN DEPENDENT RELATIVES,
WIDOWS AND CHILDREN OF SOLDIERS IN THE FEDERAL SERVICE
ON THE MEXICAN BORDER.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section one of chapter three hundred and fourteen of the General Acts of the year nineteen hundred and sixteen, is hereby amended by striking out the word "fifteenth", in the eleventh line, and inserting in place thereof the word: — first, — and by striking out the word "seventeen", in the same line, and inserting in place thereof the word: — eighteen, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 1.* Any city or town may raise money by taxation or otherwise, and if necessary expend the same, by the officers authorized by law to furnish state and military aid, for the aid of the wife, widow, children under sixteen years of age, parents, brothers and sisters actually dependent upon any inhabitant of such city or town having a residence and actually residing therein, who has enlisted, or hereafter shall be duly enlisted and mustered into the military service of the United States as a part of the quota of this commonwealth called for service on the Mexican Border, up to January first, nineteen hundred and eighteen, unless the said service is sooner terminated, in the same manner and under the same limitations, except as hereinafter provided, as state aid is paid to dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors of the civil war and the war with Spain.

SECTION 2. Section two of said chapter three hundred and fourteen is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following: — The provisions of said chapter relating to state aid shall apply to the widows and children under sixteen years of age of any such person who has died from such disabilities, either while in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom: *provided*, that only such children whose birth occurred prior to said discharge or to the first day of January, nineteen hundred and eighteen, shall be entitled to the benefit of said provisions, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 2.* Persons who incur disabilities in such service and who are honorably discharged therefrom shall be eligible to receive state and military aid under the same rules, conditions and limitations as to amounts as now govern applicants for aid under chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen. The provisions of said chapter relating to state aid shall apply to the widows and children under sixteen years of age of any such person who has died from

such disabilities, either while in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom: *provided*, that only such children whose birth occurred prior to said discharge or to the first day of January, nineteen hundred and eighteen, shall be entitled to the benefit of said provisions. [*Approved February 8, 1917.*]

GERMAN WAR.

The severance of relations between the United States and Germany on Feb. 3, 1917, was the occasion of new legislation by the General Court along the lines laid down by chapter 314, General Acts of 1916, to make provision for the aiding of dependents of soldiers, sailors and marines serving to the credit of Massachusetts during the war. This act, however, raised the maximum amount of State aid that may be paid to dependents from not exceeding \$30 per month as authorized during the time of the Mexican Border service, to not exceeding \$40 per month, and charged the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions with its disbursement.

Immediately upon the passage of chapters 179 and 332, General Acts of 1917, which authorized these payments, blanks were prepared to meet the requirements of the law, and were mailed to the disbursing officials of the various cities and towns, with instructions as to the method of procedure. It was also found advisable to request the cities and towns to make semimonthly payments in order that the long interval between payments would not create hardship for the dependents. The disbursing officers of the cities and towns very promptly and agreeably followed the advice of the Commissioner in the matter, even when it caused them trouble and expense in the disbursing of payments.

The office work in the preparation, investigation and adjudication of these claims has been of tremendous volume, and necessitated the engaging of several temporary clerks at an expenditure of \$1,449.62, with an outlay of about \$700 for printing, stationery, etc. Under this act we have expended approximately \$575,745.

As the provisions of the State aid law apply to the widow of any soldier or sailor who served to the credit of this Commonwealth in the civil or the Spanish war and the Mexican Border service, I would recommend that the law be amended to include the widowed mother, widow and children up to the age of

sixteen, provided that the soldier or sailor dies in the service during the German war, or after an honorable discharge therefrom of wounds or disability of service origin, and further provided that said children are born prior to their fathers' discharge from the service, or prior to the official termination of said war.

The acts relating to aid for dependents of soldiers and sailors of this Commonwealth in German war service are printed below.

CHAPTER 179, GENERAL ACTS OF 1917.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE AID FOR CERTAIN DEPENDENT RELATIVES OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN THE FEDERAL SERVICE.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Any city or town may raise money by taxation or otherwise, and, if necessary, expend the same by the officers authorized by law to furnish state and military aid, for the benefit of the wife, widow, children under sixteen years of age, or any child dependent by reason of physical or mental incapacity, or the actual dependent parents, brothers and sisters, of any inhabitant of such city or town, having a residence and actually residing therein, who has enlisted, and responded to the call of the president or war department, or hereafter shall duly be enlisted, and who has been or shall be mustered into the military or naval service of the United States as a part of the quota of this commonwealth which may be called for service in the United States or in any foreign country, up to January fifteenth, nineteen hundred and nineteen, unless the said service is sooner terminated, in the same manner and under the same limitations, except as hereinafter provided, as state aid is paid to dependent relatives of soldiers or sailors of the civil war and of the war with Spain.

SECTION 2. Persons who incur disabilities in the said service and who are honorably discharged therefrom shall be eligible to receive state and military aid under the same rules, conditions and limitations as to amount which now govern applicants for aid under chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen.

SECTION 3. Applicants for aid as aforesaid shall, as a basis for the first payment thereof, state in writing, under oath, the name, age and residence of the person for whom aid is sought, the relationship of such person to the soldier or sailor, the company and regiment or branch of the service in which the soldier or sailor is enlisted and in which he last served, the date and place of his enlistment, when known, the duration of his service, and the reason for the application, and shall furnish such official certificate or record, or other evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required.

SECTION 4. The commissioner of state aid and pensions shall furnish, from time to time, to each city and town a sufficient number of blank forms for the use of applicants; shall decide all questions in dispute between applicants and the municipal authorities; shall investigate all payments of aid; shall have power to determine all incidental questions arising in connection therewith; and shall have the custody of the original papers relating to each application.

SECTION 5. Each application shall be forwarded to the commissioner of state aid and pensions by the municipal officers with whom the application is filed, within three days after it is filed, together with a recommendation of the said officers thereon.

SECTION 6. Municipal officers making payments under this act shall make return of the same to the commissioner of state aid and pensions on blank forms furnished by the commissioner, in the manner prescribed by chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, except that so much of section six of said chapter as relates to the maximum aid to be allowed shall not apply. The said commissioner shall prescribe rules as to the amount and the disbursement of relief to the dependents of soldiers and sailors during the period when such soldiers and sailors are in the actual service of the United States, and reimbursement shall be made to the city or town from the treasury of the commonwealth for amounts actually expended: *provided*, that in no case shall more than forty dollars be reimbursed on account of the total aid rendered to all dependent relatives of any one soldier or sailor in any one month. All sums expended by cities and towns in excess of the amount so authorized shall be borne by the respective city or town in which the recipient has a legal settlement, in the form of soldiers' relief; but in the case of dependents of a soldier or sailor without legal settlement, the amount expended by cities and towns in excess of the limit prescribed, after determination by the commissioner of state aid and pensions as to how much relief is necessary to afford reasonable support, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth. Payment under this act may be made from the date of entry into the service of the federal government.

SECTION 7. Cities and towns, to meet liabilities incurred under the provisions of this act, are hereby authorized to borrow in excess of the statutory limit, for a period not exceeding one year, such sums as may be required, and to issue notes therefor to be payable in not more than one year from the date of issue.

SECTION 8. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any inhabitant of this commonwealth who has enlisted, or who may hereafter enlist, in the corps of other states or territories.

SECTION 9. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved April 16, 1917.*]

CHAPTER 332, GENERAL ACTS OF 1917.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE PAY AND OTHER BENEFITS FOR CERTAIN
SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. For the purpose of authorizing state pay for soldiers and sailors in the federal service as provided by chapter two hundred and eleven of the General Acts of the year nineteen hundred and seventeen, and aid for their dependents under the provisions of chapter one hundred and seventy-nine of the General Acts of the year nineteen hundred and seventeen, the war with the German Empire is defined as having begun February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and any non-commissioned officer or enlisted man having a residence of at least six months within this state and serving to the credit of this commonwealth in the regular or volunteer forces of the United States army, navy or marine corps, whose federal service began subsequent to said February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, is eligible under the provisions of the above acts.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved May 25, 1917.*]

PERSONNEL.

I respectfully request that the salaries of the 3 female clerks and 1 female agent now receiving \$1,100 be increased to \$1,200 per annum, as their present salaries do not equal the amounts paid in other departments for the same degree of ability, varied experience and responsibility. In view of the extra work entailed by the present war, I also recommend that the amount authorized for the payment of a chief clerk be increased from \$1,500 to \$1,800, and that the employment of an additional clerk be authorized at a salary of not exceeding \$1,000.

I further request permission to appoint three extra agents at a salary of \$1,300 each, their whole time to be devoted to investigation of State aid cases outside the office.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Chapter 356, Acts of 1898, charges the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions with the investigation of the appeals of aggrieved soldiers and their dependents when the municipal authorities refuse or neglect to grant them soldiers' relief.

This department is constantly in receipt of such appeals, which necessitate careful investigation as to legal settlement and the need of the aggrieved parties before they can be adjudicated.

Chapter 58, General Acts of 1917, extends the provisions of section 18, chapter 79, Revised Laws, as amended by chapter 116, General Acts of 1916, to the widows of men who served in the Spanish war or the Philippine insurrection between the twenty-first day of April and the fourth day of July in the year 1902.

CHAPTER 116, GENERAL ACTS OF 1916.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF WIDOWS TO RECEIVE SOLDIERS' RELIEF IN CERTAIN INSTANCES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws is hereby amended by striking out section eighteen and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 18.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a city or town in the commonwealth, becomes, from any cause except his own criminal or wilful misconduct, poor and entirely or partially unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under the age of sixteen years, or for a dependent father or mother; or if such person dies leaving a widow or such minor children or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support shall be accorded him or his said dependents as may be necessary by the city or town in which they or any of them have a legal settlement; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, shall also be eligible to receive relief under the provisions

of this section. Such relief shall be furnished by the mayor and aldermen or the selectmen, or, in the city of Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive such relief at home, or at such other place as the mayor and aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner, may deem proper, but he shall not be required to receive the same at an almshouse or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires it, or unless his parents or guardian so elects, in case he is a minor.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect on its passage. [*Approved April 10, 1916.*]

CHAPTER 58, GENERAL ACTS OF 1917.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF WIDOWS TO RECEIVE SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The provisions of section eighteen of chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws, as amended by chapter one hundred and sixteen of the General Acts of the year nineteen hundred and sixteen, shall apply also to the widows of those persons who served in the army or navy or marine corps of the United States during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and July fourth in the year nineteen hundred and two.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved March 12, 1917.*]

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

A detailed statement of the business of the pension department for the year ending Dec. 31, 1917, is herewith submitted:—

Number of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), original, ...	22
Soldiers (General Law), increase, ...	10
Soldiers (Act May 11, 1912), ...	148
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars, ...	31
Widows (General Law), ...	16
Widows (Act Sept. 8, 1916), ...	389
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars, ...	13
Wives (one-half pension), ...	1
Mothers, ...	6
Restoration, ...	1
Reimbursement, ...	158
New pension certificates, ...	15
Certificate in lieu of discharge, ...	1
Payment unendorsed check, ...	1
Application six months' pay, ...	1
Old claims called up, ...	10
Total, ...	823
Number of claims allowed, ...	463
Number of claims rejected, ...	87

In addition to the above, we are often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed pension claims through other attorneys, and to advise as to the method of procedure in order to complete the cases, all of which does not appear in the above summary or in our office records.

On Oct. 6, 1917, Congress also adopted an amendment to the pension law increasing the rate of pension for a widow of an

officer or enlisted man of the army, navy or marine corps of the United States who served in the civil war, the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection, to \$25 per month. This does not include widows of men in the regular army, navy or marine corps who did not serve in said wars; it does not include widows of soldiers of the War of 1812, the war with Mexico, the Indian wars or army nurses, because they are not named in the amendment.

The United States Pension Commissioner did not require widows eligible under this amendment to make application for the increase, but included it in the quarterly payment after the passage of the act, which was a source of much satisfaction to the recipients.

The thanks of this department are due Hon. G. M. Saltz-gaber, United States Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., and to his entire staff, for the courteous and painstaking attention given our claims, which has been pleasing to this department and to the applicants.

On March 4, 1917, Congress enacted a law granting pensions to survivors of certain wars and disturbances with and campaigns against Indians from 1817 to January, 1891, inclusive, and to their widows.

I deem it advisable to print these laws below.

ABSTRACT OF LAW OF MARCH 4, 1917.

The Act of March 4, 1917, extends the provisions of the act of July 27, 1892, from March 4, 1917, to those of the Texas volunteers who served in defense of the frontier of that State against Indian depredations, from Jan. 1, 1859, to Jan. 1, 1861, inclusive, and from 1866 to 1877, inclusive, and to the surviving officers and enlisted men, including militia and volunteers of the military service of the United States, who have reached the age of sixty-two years and who served for thirty days in the campaign in southern Oregon and Idaho and northern California and Nevada, from 1865 to 1868, inclusive; in the campaign against the Sioux in Minnesota and the Dakotas in 1862 and 1863 and in Wyoming in 1865 to 1868; in the following-named organizations engaged in fighting Indians and guarding United States mails on the western frontier: Company A, First Regiment, First Brigade Nebraska Militia, from Aug. 30, 1864, to Nov. 12, 1864; Company B, First Regiment Nebraska Militia, from Aug. 13, 1864, to Feb. 13, 1865; Company C, First Regiment, Second Brigade Nebraska Militia, from Aug. 24, 1864, to Feb. 7, 1865; Capt. Edward P.

Child's artillery detachment Nebraska Militia, from Aug. 30, 1864, to Nov. 12, 1864; and Company A, First Regiment, Second Brigade Nebraska Militia, from Aug. 12, 1864, to Dec. 24, 1864; in the campaign against the Cheyennes, Arapahoes, Kiowas and Comanches in Kansas, Colorado and Indian Territory from 1867 to 1869, inclusive; in the Modoc war of 1872 and 1873; in the campaign against the Apaches of Arizona and New Mexico, or either of them, in 1873; in the campaign against the Kiowas, Comanches and Cheyennes in Kansas, Colorado, Texas, Indian Territory and New Mexico in 1874 and 1875; in the campaign against the Northern Cheyennes and Sioux in 1876 and 1877; in the Nez Perce war of 1877; in the Bannock war of 1878; in the campaign against the Northern Cheyennes in 1878 and 1879; in the campaigns in the Black Hawk Indian war in Utah from 1865 to 1867, inclusive; in the campaign against the Ute Indians in Colorado and Utah from September, 1879, to November, 1880, inclusive; in the campaign against the Apache Indians in Arizona and New Mexico, or either of them, in 1885 and 1886; and in the campaign against the Sioux Indians in South Dakota from November, 1890, to January, 1891, inclusive; and to their widows *if marriage occurred prior to March 4, 1917*; and to the surviving officers and enlisted men of Tyler's Rangers, recruited at Black Hawk, Col., in 1864. If any one of said campaigns did not cover a period of thirty days, the provisions of this act apply to those who served during the entire period of said campaign.

The rate of pension for *survivors* under all but the last-named act is \$8 per month to Feb. 19, 1913, and \$20 per month thereafter. The latter rate is the rate of pension for *survivors* under the act of March 4, 1917. The rate of pensions for *widows* under all but the last-named act is \$8 per month if pension commences prior to April 19, 1908, and \$12 per month from said date or from date of commencement thereafter. The latter rate is the rate of pension for *widows* under the Act of March 4, 1917.

ACT OF CONGRESS OF OCT. 6, 1917.

ARTICLE III., SECTION 314.

That from and after the passage of this Act the rate of pension for a widow of an officer or enlisted man of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States who served in the Civil War, the War with Spain, or the Philippine Insurrection, now on the pension roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll, and entitled to receive a less rate than hereinafter provided, shall be \$25 per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the additional allowance provided by existing pension laws on account of a helpless child or child under sixteen years of age: Provided, however, That this Act shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private: And provided further, That the provisions of this section shall be administered, executed, and enforced by the Commissioner of Pensions.

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following is a detailed statement showing the number of civil and Spanish war recipients of State and military aid under the provisions of chapter 587, Acts of 1914, and the number of dependents of soldiers of the Mexican Border service under the provisions of chapter 314, Acts of 1916, who were drawing aid in the various cities and towns in this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1916.

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Abington, ...	51	—	51	56
Acton, ...	12	—	12	13
Acushnet, ...	4	—	4	4
Adams, ...	19	—	19	20
Agawam, ...	3	—	3	8
Alford, ...	1	—	1	1
Amesbury, ...	42	—	42	43
Amherst, ...	16	—	16	16
Andover, ...	19	—	19	25
Arlington, ...	29	—	29	34
Ashburnham, ...	11	—	11	11
Ashby, ...	7	—	7	7
Ashfield, ...	9	—	9	9
Ashland, ...	18	—	18	21
Athol, ...	49	—	49	47
ATTLEBORO, ...	38	—	38	40
Auburn, ...	5	—	5	8
Avon, ...	15	—	15	16
Ayer, ...	6	—	6	9
Barnstable, ...	25	—	25	26
Barre, ...	9	—	9	8
Becket, ...	7	—	7	8

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Bedford, ...	4	—	4	4
Belchertown, ...	24	—	24	29
Bellingham, ...	12	—	12	8
Belmont, ...	12	—	12	13
Berkley, ...	2	—	2	3
Berlin, ...	8	—	8	10
Bernardston, ...	1	—	1	1
BEVERLY, ...	123	2	125	137
Billerica, ...	13	—	13	14
Blackstone, ...	18	—	18	19
Blandford, ...	4	—	4	6
Bolton, ...	8	—	8	8
BOSTON, ...	1,173	31	1,204	1,258
Bourne, ...	8	—	8	9
Boxborough, ...	2	—	2	2
Boxford, ...	5	—	5	5
Boylston, ...	7	—	7	8
Braintree, ...	36	—	36	38
Brewster, ...	5	—	5	6
Bridgewater, ...	25	—	25	25
Brimfield, ...	1	—	1	3
BROCKTON, ...	224	—	224	230
Brookfield, ...	16	—	16	22
Brookline, ...	23	—	23	28
Buckland, ...	11	—	11	11
Burlington, ...	4	—	4	3
CAMBRIDGE, ...	153	3	156	165
Canton, ...	5	—	5	7
Carlisle, ...	4	—	4	5
Carver, ...	7	—	7	10
Charlemont, ...	1	—	1	1
Charlton, ...	13	—	13	14
Chatham, ...	10	—	10	11
Chelmsford, ...	10	—	10	16
CHELSEA, ...	54	—	54	61
Cheshire, ...	13	—	13	13
Chester, ...	5	—	5	5

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Chesterfield, ...	7	-	7	9
CHICOPEE, ...	16	-	16	17
Chilmark, ...	-	-	-	-
Clarksburg, ...	4	-	4	4
Clinton, ...	14	-	14	22
Cohasset, ...	10	-	10	12
Colrain, ...	6	-	6	6
Concord, ...	9	-	9	10
Conway, ...	3	-	3	4
Cummington, ...	5	-	5	5
Dalton, ...	18	-	18	18
Dana, ...	10	-	10	11
Danvers, ...	62	-	62	75
Dartmouth, ...	14	-	14	14
Dedham, ...	15	1	16	21
Deerfield, ...	12	-	12	10
Dennis, ...	16	-	16	16
Dighton, ...	12	-	12	13
Douglas, ...	10	-	10	10
Dover, ...	5	-	5	4
Dracut, ...	4	-	4	4
Dudley, ...	1	-	1	1
Dunstable, ...	-	-	-	-
Duxbury, ...	22	-	22	23
East Bridgewater, ...	29	-	29	33
East Longmeadow, ...	2	-	2	2
Eastham, ...	3	-	3	2
Easthampton, ...	4	-	4	5
Easton, ...	20	-	20	21
Edgartown, ...	11	-	11	12
Egremont, ...	1	-	1	1
Enfield, ...	7	-	7	7
Erving, ...	4	-	4	4
Essex, ...	18	-	18	21
EVERETT, ...	77	-	77	77
Fairhaven, ...	33	-	33	35
FALL RIVER, ...	113	-	113	123

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Falmouth, ...	8	—	8	8
FITCHBURG, ...	58	—	58	64
Florida, ...	—	—	—	—
Foxborough, ...	19	—	19	23
Framingham, ...	57	—	57	62
Franklin, ...	19	—	19	22
Freetown, ...	11	—	11	17
Gardner, ...	23	—	23	24
Gay Head, ...	—	—	—	—
Georgetown, ...	42	—	42	43
Gill, ...	2	—	2	1
GLOUCESTER, ...	114	—	114	123
Goshen, ...	2	—	2	3
Gosnold, ...	—	—	—	—
Grafton, ...	15	—	15	15
Granby, ...	1	—	1	1
Granville, ...	2	—	2	2
Great Barrington, ...	20	—	20	21
Greenfield, ...	29	—	29	27
Greenwich, ...	4	—	4	6
Groton, ...	14	—	14	16
Groveland, ...	15	—	15	19
Hadley, ...	1	—	1	1
Halifax, ...	3	—	3	3
Hamilton, ...	7	—	7	8
Hampden, ...	7	—	7	7
Hancock, ...	—	—	—	—
Hanover, ...	28	—	28	31
Hanson, ...	29	1	30	28
Hardwick, ...	1	—	1	1
Harvard, ...	2	—	2	2
Harwich, ...	15	—	15	17
Hatfield, ...	3	—	3	3
HAVERHILL, ...	203	—	203	212
Hawley, ...	4	—	4	2
Heath, ...	1	—	1	2
Hingham, ...	32	—	32	34

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Hinsdale, ...	4	-	4	4
Holbrook, ...	19	-	19	20
Holden, ...	8	-	8	9
Holland, ...	4	-	4	4
Holliston, ...	16	-	16	18
HOLYOKE, ...	35	1	36	40
Hopedale, ...	7	-	7	7
Hopkinton, ...	26	-	26	27
Hubbardston, ...	13	-	13	14
Hudson, ...	21	-	21	23
Hull, ...	3	-	3	2
Huntington, ...	7	-	7	7
Ipswich, ...	32	-	32	37
Kingston, ...	16	-	16	18
Lakeville, ...	2	-	2	2
Lancaster, ...	7	-	7	10
Lanesborough, ...	7	-	7	6
LAWRENCE, ...	77	-	77	86
Lee, ...	21	-	21	21
Leicester, ...	12	-	12	13
Lenox, ...	3	-	3	4
LEOMINSTER, ...	47	-	47	51
Leverett, ...	6	-	6	6
Lexington, ...	8	-	8	10
Leyden, ...	1	-	1	2
Lincoln, ...	-	-	-	-
Littleton, ...	2	-	2	2
Longmeadow, ...	3	-	3	3
LOWELL, ...	208	-	208	231
Ludlow, ...	7	-	7	7
Lunenburg, ...	4	-	4	4
LYNN, ...	399	1	400	421
Lynnfield, ...	11	-	11	13
MALDEN, ...	115	1	116	126
Manchester, ...	12	-	12	16
Mansfield, ...	26	-	26	26
Marblehead, ...	170	-	170	188

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Marion, ...	10	—	10	10
MARLBOROUGH, ...	73	—	73	77
Marshfield, ...	30	—	30	35
Mashpee, ...	4	—	4	4
Mattapoisett, ...	9	—	9	12
Maynard, ...	4	—	4	6
Medfield, ...	7	—	7	7
MEDFORD, ...	78	—	78	79
Medway, ...	31	—	31	34
MELROSE, ...	43	—	43	47
Mendon, ...	3	—	3	4
Merrimac, ...	17	—	17	18
Methuen, ...	13	—	13	19
Middleborough, ...	70	—	70	78
Middlefield, ...	1	—	1	2
Middleton, ...	18	1	19	19
Milford, ...	55	—	55	63
Millbury, ...	19	—	19	21
Millis, ...	1	—	1	2
Milton, ...	14	—	14	15
Monroe, ...	—	—	—	—
Monson, ...	16	—	16	16
Montague, ...	26	—	26	27
Monterey, ...	2	—	2	2
Montgomery, ...	1	—	1	1
Mount Washington, ...	—	—	—	—
Nahant, ...	3	—	3	5
Nantucket, ...	21	—	21	31
Natick, ...	66	—	66	70
Needham, ...	11	—	11	12
New Ashford, ...	1	—	1	1
NEW BEDFORD, ...	185	—	185	201
New Braintree, ...	2	—	2	2
New Marlborough, ...	4	—	4	7
New Salem, ...	9	—	9	10
Newbury, ...	29	—	29	29
NEWBURYPORT, ...	131	—	131	141

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
NEWTON, ...	49	—	49	49
Norfolk, ...	4	—	4	6
NORTH ADAMS, ...	43	—	43	49
North Andover, ...	14	1	15	16
North Attleborough, ...	15	—	15	17
North Brookfield, ...	13	—	13	14
North Reading, ...	16	—	16	18
NORTHAMPTON, ...	42	—	42	47
Northborough, ...	8	—	8	8
Northbridge, ...	7	—	7	9
Northfield, ...	6	—	6	7
Norton, ...	13	—	13	18
Norwell, ...	28	—	28	30
Norwood, ...	7	—	7	14
Oak Bluffs, ...	6	—	6	6
Oakham, ...	4	—	4	4
Orange, ...	27	—	27	34
Orleans, ...	5	—	5	6
Otis, ...	3	—	3	6
Oxford, ...	14	—	14	17
Palmer, ...	13	—	13	14
Paxton, ...	4	—	4	4
PEABODY, ...	55	—	55	69
Pelham, ...	4	—	4	4
Pembroke, ...	29	—	29	34
Pepperell, ...	8	—	8	12
Peru, ...	1	—	1	1
Petersham, ...	9	—	9	10
Phillipston, ...	2	—	2	2
PITTSFIELD, ...	63	—	63	67
Plainfield, ...	2	—	2	2
Plainville, ...	6	—	6	4
Plymouth, ...	58	—	58	60
Plympton, ...	9	—	9	11
Prescott, ...	2	—	2	3
Princeton, ...	6	—	6	6
Provincetown, ...	11	—	11	11

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
QUINCY, ...	72	1	73	75
Randolph, ...	53	—	53	54
Raynham, ...	12	—	12	14
Reading, ...	27	—	27	31
Rehoboth, ...	5	—	5	8
REVERE, ...	38	2	40	33
Richmond, ...	2	—	2	2
Rochester, ...	6	—	6	7
Rockland, ...	64	—	64	77
Rockport, ...	32	—	32	33
Rowe, ...	3	—	3	3
Rowley, ...	13	—	13	15
Royalston, ...	5	—	5	6
Russell, ...	1	—	1	1
Rutland, ...	6	—	6	6
SALEM, ...	181	—	181	195
Salisbury, ...	25	—	25	28
Sandisfield, ...	5	—	5	4
Sandwich, ...	12	—	12	11
Saugus, ...	41	—	41	46
Savoy, ...	4	—	4	4
Scituate, ...	29	—	29	36
Seekonk, ...	3	—	3	5
Sharon, ...	13	—	13	12
Sheffield, ...	11	—	11	12
Shelburne, ...	8	—	8	10
Sherborn, ...	2	—	2	2
Shirley, ...	5	—	5	5
Shrewsbury, ...	13	—	13	14
Shutesbury, ...	1	—	1	1
Somerset, ...	14	—	14	14
SOMERVILLE, ...	234	2	236	256
South Hadley, ...	8	—	8	9
Southampton, ...	3	—	3	3
Southborough, ...	10	—	10	16
Southbridge, ...	17	—	17	17
Southwick, ...	5	—	5	7

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Spencer, ...	31	-	31	33
SPRINGFIELD, ...	192	-	192	204
Sterling, ...	11	-	11	12
Stockbridge, ...	13	-	13	13
Stoneham, ...	51	-	51	56
Stoughton, ...	61	-	61	60
Stow, ...	4	-	4	4
Sturbridge, ...	5	-	5	6
Sudbury, ...	4	-	4	5
Sunderland, ...	1	-	1	1
Sutton, ...	15	-	15	16
Swampscott, ...	34	-	34	41
Swansea, ...	3	-	3	4
TAUNTON, ...	99	-	99	108
Templeton, ...	5	-	5	6
Tewksbury, ...	2	-	2	1
Tisbury, ...	5	-	5	5
Tolland, ...	1	-	1	1
Topsfield, ...	9	-	9	9
Townsend, ...	11	-	11	12
Truro, ...	3	-	3	4
Tyngsborough, ...	3	-	3	2
Tyringham, ...	1	-	1	1
Upton, ...	25	-	25	24
Uxbridge, ...	10	-	10	9
Wakefield, ...	50	-	50	50
Wales, ...	2	-	2	3
Walpole, ...	8	-	8	9
WALTHAM, ...	58	5	63	61
Ware, ...	8	-	8	8
Wareham, ...	30	-	30	34
Warren, ...	9	-	9	12
Warwick, ...	1	-	1	1
Washington, ...	1	-	1	1
Watertown, ...	15	-	15	18
Wayland, ...	12	-	12	14
Webster, ...	15	-	15	12

	1916.			1915.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	Total.	Total.
Wellesley, ...	4	—	4	4
Wellfleet, ...	4	—	4	5
Wendell, ...	2	—	2	2
Wenham, ...	12	—	12	12
West Boylston, ...	5	—	5	6
West Bridgewater, ...	18	—	18	22
West Brookfield, ...	15	—	15	17
West Newbury, ...	23	—	23	24
West Springfield, ...	25	—	25	22
West Stockbridge, ...	4	—	4	4
West Tisbury, ...	1	—	1	1
Westborough, ...	28	—	28	31
Westfield, ...	72	—	72	71
Westford, ...	9	—	9	8
Westhampton, ...	1	—	1	1
Westminster, ...	12	—	12	14
Weston, ...	4	—	4	4
Westport, ...	4	—	4	4
Westwood, ...	1	—	1	1
Weymouth, ...	102	—	102	110
Whately, ...	3	—	3	3
Whitmar, ...	77	—	77	85
Wilbraham, ...	4	—	4	5
Williamsburg, ...	8	—	8	9
Williamstown, ...	20	—	20	24
Wilmington, ...	7	—	7	7
Winchendon, ...	12	—	12	14
Winchester, ...	12	—	12	14
Windsor, ...	3	—	3	4
Winthrop, ...	16	—	16	17
Woburn, ...	43	—	43	47
Worcester, ...	342	1	343	366
Worthington, ...	4	—	4	4
Wrentham, ...	14	—	14	18
Yarmouth, ...	9	—	9	10
	9,510	54	9,564	10,334

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONER
OF
STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

FOR THE YEAR 1918.



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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 2, 1919.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 587, Acts of 1914, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1917, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1918.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

REPORT.

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Expenditures of State and military aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, as provided by law, and also expenditures on account of the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars and the Philippine insurrection and their wives, widows and dependent fathers and mothers, were made by 345 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1917, due and payable Nov. 10, 1918, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, . . .	\$564,017 35
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, .	6,811 50
State aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border service, ...	1,024 82
State aid to dependents, German war service, . . .	566,090 25
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, . . .	10,962 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, . .	5,528 60
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, . .	25,719 46
Total for 1917, ...	\$1,180,688 98

The increased expenditure of \$475,990.84 from 1916 is due to the enactment of legislation granting aid to soldiers who served on the Mexican Border or in the war with Germany, and their dependents, and to new legislation in regard to Spanish war widows, by which they are no longer required to furnish proof that their husbands' deaths were caused by wounds or disability incurred in line of duty. This legislation increased the number of recipients in this class. (See chapter 161, General Acts of 1917, applicable to Spanish war widows.)

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1917, was 9,300, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	3,257	Decrease, ...	405
Wives, ...	187	Decrease, ...	45
Widows, ...	5,835	Decrease, ...	435
Mothers, ...	10	Decrease, ...	3
Children, ...	9	Increase, ...	2
Army nurses, ...	2		
Total, ...	9,300		

Net decrease of recipients during 1917, 886.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.64+.

The total number of State aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1917, was 139, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	31	Decrease, ...	8
Wives, ...	1		
Widows, ...	63	Increase, ...	30
Mothers, ...	41	Increase, ...	11
Fathers, ...	2		
Army nurses, ...	1	Decrease, ...	1
Total, ...	139		

Net increase of recipients during 1917, 32.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$49+.

The total number of recipients of State aid, Mexican Border service, for the year 1917, was 28, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
Wives, ...	11	Decrease, ...	397
Mothers, ...	11	Decrease, ...	614
Fathers, ...	1	Decrease, ...	43
Children, ...	—	Decrease, ...	13
Sisters, ...	1	Decrease, ...	20
Brothers, ...	3	Decrease, ...	5
Total, ...	28		

Net decrease of recipients during 1917, 1,091.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$36.60+.

The total number of recipients of State aid, German war, for 1917, was 5,128, classified as follows:—

Wives, ...	1,771
Widows, ...	4
Mothers, ...	2,997
Fathers, ...	182
Brothers, ...	33
Sisters, ...	93
Children, ...	48
Total, ...	5,128

Average cost to State per person aided, \$110.39+.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$17,025.60 — a decrease of \$945.15 from 1917 — was disbursed as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers, ...	155	Decrease, ...	25
---------------------	-----	---------------------	----

Spanish war:—

Soldiers, ...	60	Decrease, ...	5
---------------------	----	---------------------	---

Mexican Border service:—

Soldiers, ...	7	Increase, ...	7
---------------------	---	---------------------	---

Civil war:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	\$10,962 00
---	-------------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$70.72+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

Spanish War:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	4,788 60
---	----------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$84.01+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, ...	740 00
---	--------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$246.67.

Mexican Border service:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	385 00
---	--------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$64.17+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, ...	150 00
---	--------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$150.

Total, ...	\$17,025 60
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Military aid under Classes 1 and 2 is paid to soldiers having a legal settlement in the city or town from which they receive it. One-half of the amount authorized in such cases is reimbursed by the State.

Military aid under Classes 3 and 4 is paid to non-settled or "State" cases, and the whole amount so expended is reimbursed to the cities and towns making the payment.

Military aid is not limited as to the amount paid, this being determined by the applicant's need and degree of disability. It is paid to soldiers only, not to their dependents.

To be eligible for military aid, soldiers of the Mexican Border and German war service must show that they were honorably discharged on account of sickness or disability incurred in said service. All applicants for this aid must furnish medical certificates with their applications, showing the nature and extent of their disability.

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses under Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, as amended by Chapter 191, Acts of 1916, Chapter 160, Acts of 1917, and Chapter 183, Acts of 1918.

The burial law was amended by chapter 183, General Acts of 1918, to include soldiers, sailors and marines of the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers. A special provision was made in this law whereby cases of soldiers, sailors or marines dying in the German war service are eligible if application is made within thirty days after the date of final interment.

The total number of burials for 1917 was 527, classified as follows:—

Civil war: —											
Soldiers,	.	.	.	.	307	Increase,	.	.	.	.	18
Wives,	.	.	.	.	9	Decrease,	.	.	.	.	8
Widows,	.	.	.	.	199	Increase,	.	.	.	.	34
Mothers,	.	.	.	.	1	Decrease,	.	.	.	.	1
Army nurses,	.	.	.	.	—						

Spanish war: —

Soldiers, ...	8	Decrease, ...	16
Widows, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
Mothers, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
	— 10		

Philippine insurrection: —

Wives, ...	—	Decrease, ...	1
Soldiers, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
	— 1		

Total, ... 527

Net decrease during 1917, 29.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$48.80+.

THE LAW

Relative to the Burial of Indigent Soldiers, their Wives, Widows or Dependent Mothers, under Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, Sections 17, 18 and 19, as affected by Chapter 191, General Acts of 1916, Chapter 160, General Acts of 1917, and Chapter 183, General Acts of 1918.

SECTION 17. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner of state aid and pensions, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after the fourteenth day of February, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to the fourth day of July in the year nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican insurrection of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the present war with Germany, provided that the soldier, sailor or marine dies in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom, and the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of such army nurses as are entitled to state aid under section three of this act, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten; and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Mexican insurrection or of the present war with Germany unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from such service. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made

to him within thirty days after the date of the death, or after final interment if the soldier, sailor or marine dies in the German war service, and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner of state aid and pensions, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

SECTION 18. The expense of such burial shall not exceed fifty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent who caused the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred and ten dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground which is used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part so used of any cemetery or burial ground. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, sailor or marine, the regiment, company or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall be certified under oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the city or town expending the amount, within ninety days after the burial; and said commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as in his judgment have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit such certificate to the auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 19. This act shall take effect on the first day of July in the year nineteen hundred and fourteen, but so far as its provisions are the same as those of existing laws they shall be construed as a continuation thereof.

STATE AID AND BOUNTIES.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts from 1861 to the close of 1917, were . . .		\$41,641,585 77
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1917, paid in 1918, ...		1,180,688 98
Special laws, 1918, ...		569 20
Soldiers' Home, 1918, ...		136,700 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1918, ...		\$42,959,543 95

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payment of bounties on account of soldiers in the civil war to Dec. 1, 1917, ...	\$17,872,859 82	
Gratuities (Acts of 1912, chapter 702; 1913, chapters 105 and 443), ...	570,000 00	
		18,442,859 82
		\$61,402,403 77
Returned to State Treasurer Nov. 7, 1917, being State aid paid to Elizabeth Early of Taunton on misrepresentation, ...		560 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1918, ...		\$61,401,843 77

PERSONNEL.

In regard to our office staff I have to say as follows: —

In view of the fact that Mr. William F. French, who acted in the capacity of House chairman of military affairs in the Legislature of 1917-18, was conversant with the legislation passed for the benefit of our soldier and sailor residents and their dependents, he was appointed to the position of chief clerk in this department. His judgment and treatment of cases have been found to be of the highest order, and it is a source of regret to me that his present salary of \$1,800 is in no way commensurate with his ability. I therefore recommend that his salary be increased to \$2,100. I also recommend that the statutory limitation in regard to the salaries of the clerks and agents in this department be removed so that they may come within the provisions of the standardization law.

Our agents, permanent and temporary, have labored faithfully in examining the State and military aid cases, and while mindful of the interests of the Commonwealth, they have at the same time been of great assistance to beneficiaries in enlightening them in regard to the State and Federal laws enacted for their benefit. I have always believed that we could get better results from our investigations by interviewing the beneficiaries at their own homes, and have adopted this method, as the experienced agent can in this way learn

more quickly the conditions in each case, and the beneficiaries are not embarrassed by the presence of others, as was the case when they were assembled at the city or town hall of their jurisdiction. While it is not possible in this method of investigation to equal the number of examinations made in a given time by assembling the beneficiaries, the thoroughness of the house calls in my opinion more than justifies their continuance. In this way only can the Commonwealth be protected from those who would abuse its generosity.

In view of the many cases now carried on our State and military aid rolls, I recommend that the eight temporary agents be made permanent.

I desire to express my recognition of the faithful service rendered by Wilfred A. Wetherbee and Eugene D. Sanborn, our senior agents, who labored early and late to assist applicants for aid.

WAR WITH GERMANY.

The enactment of chapter 108, General Acts of 1918, providing for the granting of State war allowance to dependents of residents of this Commonwealth in the military or naval service in the war with Germany, and military aid for men receiving honorable discharges from such service by reason of illness or disability incurred therein, repealed chapter 179, General Acts of 1917. The maximum amount of \$40 per month allowed to all dependents of any one soldier, sailor or marine in any one month under the 1917 statute was increased to \$50 per month under the act of 1918. Said chapter 108 extended its provisions to dependents of residents regardless of State or territory in which the soldier, sailor or marine enlisted or was drafted, provided that on Feb. 3, 1917, such soldier, sailor or marine was an actual resident of this Commonwealth and his dependents still actually reside in Massachusetts.

Immediately upon the suspension of the monthly State pay of \$10, on Jan. 15, 1918, in the cases of enlisted men of this Commonwealth in the war with Germany, many additional claims for dependents' war allowance were made. In this way a remedy was provided for any actual financial loss to

legal dependents by the statutory limitation of the State pay act.

The benefits that should accrue from the operation of the law relating to soldiers' and sailors' allotments and allowances by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance, United States Treasury Department, Washington, D. C., were negated by the irregularity of such payments. In the majority of such cases, where the dependents could live with a degree of comfort when the Federal allowance came regularly, we were obliged, owing to this irregularity, to replace such dependents on our rolls, as it was found that many months' delay in the Federal payments was causing hardship.

Owing to the increased responsibility of granting aid to dependents of residents who enlisted or were drafted for the various branches of military or naval service in the war with Germany, which was placed upon this department by the Legislature of 1917-18, it was found that the office staff would be unable to cope with the situation unless an additional force of clerks and investigators was employed. The volume of work, as well as the expense to the State, attending the reviewing of applications for new grants of State war allowance, and reconsideration of claims where war risk payments were suspended for various reasons, was enormous. More than 200,000 men from Massachusetts were engaged in the German war, and the work of providing for their dependents had to be cared for in all its detail — correspondence, indexing, filing, investigation as to the soldier's and sailor's service, and the physical and financial condition of the dependents — to enable us to make an equitable adjustment in each case. The Legislature made the appropriation to meet the emergency, and we had a competent office force to perform the various duties pertaining to the work.

Under the present State and military aid act applicable to civil and Spanish war soldiers and sailors, such soldiers and sailors, whether officers or enlisted men, are eligible if in need. I feel that an unintentional injustice may be done officers of the German war service who had a residence in Massachusetts on Feb. 3, 1917, by not including them in the State and military aid law. Section 2, chapter 108, General

Acts of 1918, provides for State and military aid only for enlisted or drafted men who were discharged for disability or sickness incurred in line of duty, and as the same amount of war risk compensation for death or disability is allowed to officers and enlisted men alike by the Federal government, it would seem, as a matter of equity, that the generosity of the Commonwealth should apply to officers and enlisted men alike, especially when our statutes already provide for similar cases of former United States wars. I therefore recommend that legislation be enacted to provide for the payment of State and military aid in such cases when it is needed.

CHAPTER 108, GENERAL ACTS OF 1918.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE WAR ALLOWANCE AND STATE AID FOR CERTAIN RESIDENTS OF THE COMMONWEALTH IN THE MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Any city or town, acting by the officers authorized by law to furnish state and military aid, may, during the war with Germany and for six months thereafter, provide a war allowance for the dependent relatives of any soldier, sailor or marine who, subsequently to February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, entered the military or naval service of the United States by enlistment or draft, or who, subsequently to the said date, was recalled to such service or was continued therein after the termination of a prior enlistment, provided that on February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, such soldier, sailor or marine was a resident of this commonwealth. The dependent relatives eligible to receive such aid shall be the wife, children under sixteen years of age, or any child dependent by reason of physical or mental incapacity, or the dependent parent, or any person who stood in the relationship of a parent to the soldier, sailor or marine for five years prior to his enlistment, draft, recall or continuance in the service, since the said February third, brother or sister. The allowance authorized by this section shall cease on the termination of the service by death or discharge.

SECTION 2. Any person in the military or naval service of the United States, whose dependents are entitled to war allowance under the provisions of section one, and who is honorably discharged from the said service by reason of illness or disability incurred therein, shall be eligible to receive state and military aid under chapter five hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and fourteen and amendments thereof. If any such person shall die in the said service during the said war, or shall die after an honorable discharge from the said service from injuries received or disability or illness incurred therein, his mother, if a

widow, his widow and his children, up to the age of sixteen, or any child dependent by reason of physical or mental incapacity, provided that the children were in being prior to his discharge, or prior to the termination of the said war, or any person who stood to him in the relationship of a parent for five years prior to his enlistment, draft, recall or continuance in the service, since the said February third, shall be entitled to the benefit of state aid in accordance with the provisions of the said chapter five hundred and eighty-seven and amendments thereof.

SECTION 3. The payments authorized by the preceding two sections shall be made in the same manner in which, and shall be subject to the same limitations under which, state aid is paid to dependent relatives of soldiers, sailors or marines under said chapter five hundred and eighty-seven and amendments, except as otherwise provided herein.

SECTION 4. Applicants for war allowance hereunder shall, as a basis for the first payment thereof, state in writing, under oath, the name, age and residence of the person for whom the same is sought, the relationship of such person to the soldier, sailor or marine, the company and regiment or branch of the service in which he was enlisted and in which he last served, the date and place of his enlistment, if known, the duration of his service, the amount of United States pay, allotment and federal family allowance, under the War Risk Insurance Act, approved October the sixth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, the average weekly amount contributed by the soldier, sailor or marine during the year previous to service, and the reason for the application, and shall furnish such official certificates or records, or other evidence of enlistment, service and discharge, as may be required.

SECTION 5. The commissioner of state aid and pensions shall, from time to time, furnish each city and town with a sufficient number of blank forms for the use of applicants; shall decide all questions in dispute between applicants and the municipal authorities; shall investigate all payments of war allowance; shall have power to determine all incidental questions arising in connection therewith; and shall have the custody of the original papers relating to each application.

SECTION 6. Application for war allowance may be filed directly with the commissioner of state aid and pensions, who in such case may request the state aid officers of the city or town named in the application for a recommendation thereon, or with the duly authorized state aid officers of the city or town, who shall, within three days, forward the application together with a recommendation thereon, to the commissioner.

SECTION 7. Municipal officers making payments under this act shall make return of the same to the commissioner of state aid and pensions, on blank forms to be furnished by him, in the manner prescribed by said chapter five hundred and eighty-seven and amendments thereof, except that so much of section six of said chapter as relates to the maximum allowance to be allowed shall not apply. The said commissioner shall prescribe rules as to the amount and the disbursement of allowance to

the dependents of soldiers, sailors or marines during the period when such soldiers, sailors or marines are in the actual service of the United States, and reimbursement shall be made to the city or town from the treasury of the commonwealth for amounts actually expended and authorized by the said commissioner, provided that in no case shall more than fifty dollars be reimbursed on account of the total allowance rendered to all dependent relatives of any one soldier, sailor or marine in any one month. All sums expended by cities and towns in excess of the amount so authorized shall be borne by the respective city or town in which the recipient has a legal settlement, in the form of soldiers' relief; but in the case of dependents of a soldier, sailor or marine without legal settlement, the amount expended by cities and towns in excess of the limit prescribed after determination by the commissioner of state aid and pensions as to how much allowance is necessary to afford reasonable support, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth.

SECTION 8. Cities and towns are hereby authorized to raise by taxation such sums as may be necessary to meet expenses incurred under the provisions of this act, or to borrow the same in excess of the statutory limit of indebtedness. For this purpose any city or town may issue its notes, which shall be payable in not more than one year from the date of issue.

SECTION 9. Whoever knowingly makes a false statement, oral or written, relating to a material fact in supporting a claim to war allowance or state aid under the provisions of this act shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than one year. Whoever, being entitled to the benefits of this act, fraudulently claims or receives pay for a period of time following the termination of his right to receive the same shall be punished by a fine of not more than one hundred dollars, or by imprisonment for not more than one year, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SECTION 10. Chapter one hundred and seventy-nine of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and seventeen is hereby repealed, but this act shall be construed as a continuation of the said chapter one hundred and seventy-nine, and no right to relief which has accrued under the said chapter one hundred and seventy-nine shall be affected by this repeal.

SECTION 11. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved March 27, 1918.*]

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

In addition to the benefits provided for soldiers and sailors of the civil and Spanish wars and the Philippine insurrection and their dependents under the State and military aid chapter, there is another form of aid called soldiers' relief, which is allowed to be paid by the various cities and towns of this Commonwealth to the aforesaid soldiers and sailors and their dependents, provided they have acquired a legal settlement in the city or town paying such aid. None of the money expended under this law is reimbursed by the State. The only jurisdiction exercised by this department over soldiers' relief is in cases of appeals of parties who have grievances against the municipal authorities in regard to the amount of relief granted to meet the need of any particular case, and in cases in which the municipal authorities refuse or neglect to grant the necessary assistance. The Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, upon receipt of an appeal from an aggrieved applicant for soldiers' relief, is required under the statute to investigate the conditions and determine the amount of such relief, if any, that should be allowed. We received many such appeals, and our adjudication thereof was satisfactory to all concerned.

The intent of the soldiers' relief law is to save worthy soldiers and their dependents who are in need from the humiliation of being obliged to seek aid from the overseers of the poor.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending Dec. 31, 1918:—

Number of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), original, ...	12
Soldiers (General Law), increase, ...	8
Soldiers (Act May 11, 1912), ...	71
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian wars, ...	7
Soldiers (Act Oct. 6, 1917), German war, ...	18
Widows (General Law), ...	13
Widows (Act Sept. 8, 1916), ...	265
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian wars, ...	3
Widows (Act July 16, 1918), Spanish war, ...	234
Widows (Act January 29, 1887), Mexican war, ...	1
Widows (accrued), ...	11
Wives (one-half pension), ...	3
Mothers, ...	1
Fathers, ...	1
Reimbursement, ...	113
New pension certificates, ...	6
Payment unendorsed checks, ...	2
Application for six months' pay, ...	1
Old claims, ...	5
Ten years' service pension, ...	2
Guardians' claims, ...	2
Certificates in lieu of discharge, ...	4
Total, ...	783
Number of claims allowed, ...	421
Number of claims rejected, ...	75

In addition to the above, we executed vouchers in cases in which payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and also in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife.

Inquiries regarding pension claims, both written and verbal, were many and varied, and full information regarding the status of each case was given.

During the year many persons applied at this office for assistance in preparing forms received by them from the Bureau of War Risk Insurance in connection with claims already filed by them with the Bureau. This service was willingly rendered, and the necessary information given to the applicants. This work does not appear in our records, as the claims were not made through this office.

Important pension legislation was passed during the year 1918, which affected Civil war veterans and widows of those who served during the Spanish war, the Philippine insurrection or the Boxer rebellion in China.

Under the act of June 10, 1918, any person who served at least ninety days during the civil war and was honorably discharged is entitled to \$30 per month. If such person has reached the age of seventy-two years, and served longer than ninety days, he is entitled to a higher rating, as shown in the copy of the act which is given below.

The increase under this act was granted automatically in all cases in which the veteran was drawing under the act of May 11, 1912, but where the pension was granted under other acts the veteran is required to make application under the act of May 11, 1912, in order to receive the benefits of the amendment approved June 10, 1918.

[PUBLIC — No. 167 — 65TH CONGRESS.]

[H. R. 9959.]

AN ACT TO AMEND AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT GRANTING PENSIONS TO CERTAIN ENLISTED MEN, SOLDIERS AND OFFICERS WHO SERVED IN THE CIVIL WAR AND THE WAR WITH MEXICO," APPROVED MAY ELEVENTH, NINETEEN HUNDRED AND TWELVE.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the general pension Act of May eleventh, nineteen hundred and twelve, is hereby amended by adding a new section, to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. That from and after the passage of this Act the rate of pension for any person who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the Civil War, now on the roll or hereafter to be placed on the pension roll and entitled to receive

a less rate than hereinafter provided, shall be \$30 per month. In case such a person has reached the age of seventy-two years and served six months, the rate shall be \$32 per month; one year, \$35 per month; one and a half years, \$38 per month; two years or over, \$40 per month: *Provided*, That this Act shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private: *Provided further*, That no pension attorney, claim agent, or other person, shall be entitled to receive any compensation for presenting any claim to the Bureau of Pensions under this Act, except in applications for original pension by persons who have not heretofore received a pension.

Approved, June 10, 1918.

Prior to the passage of the act of July 16, 1918, widows of Spanish war soldiers and sailors were not eligible for a pension unless they could prove that their husbands died of wounds or disease contracted in line of duty. They are not now required to furnish such evidence, and are eligible for pension under the conditions set forth in the following copy of the act, which also includes widows of soldiers who served in the Philippine insurrection or the Boxer rebellion.

AN ACT TO PENSION WIDOWS AND MINOR CHILDREN OF OFFICERS AND ENLISTED MEN WHO SERVED IN THE WAR WITH SPAIN, PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION, OR IN CHINA.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, — That from and after the passage of this Act if any volunteer officer or enlisted man who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States, during the War with Spain or the Philippine Insurrection, between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, inclusive, service to be computed from date of enlistment to date of discharge, or any officer or enlisted man of the Regular Establishment who rendered ninety days or more actual military or naval service in the United States Army, Navy, or Marine Corps in the War with Spain or the Philippine Insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, inclusive, or as a participant in the Chinese Boxer rebellion campaign between June sixteenth, nineteen hundred, and October first, nineteen hundred, and who has been honorably discharged therefrom, has died or shall hereafter die leaving a widow without means of support other than her daily labor, and an actual net income not exceeding \$250 per year, or leaving a minor child or children under the age of sixteen years, such widow shall upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his Army or Navy service, be placed

on the pension roll from the date of the filing of her application therefor under this Act, at the rate of \$12 per month during her widowhood, and shall also be paid \$2 per month for each child of such officer or enlisted man under sixteen years of age, and in case of the death or remarriage of the widow, leaving a child or children of such officer or enlisted man under the age of sixteen years, such pension shall be paid such child or children until the age of sixteen: *Provided*, That in case a minor child is insane, idiotic, or otherwise permanently helpless, the pension shall continue during the life of said child, or during the period of such disability, and shall commence from the date of application therefor after the passage of this Act: *Provided, further*, That said widow shall have married said officer or enlisted man previous to the passage of this Act: *Provided, however*, That this Act shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private.

SEC. 2. That no agent, attorney, or other person engaged in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under the provisions of this Act, shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain for such services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting such claim a sum greater than \$10, which sum shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of a pension or claim allowed or due such pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every offense, be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Approved, July 16, 1918.

The thanks of this department are due Hon. G. M. Saltz-gaber, United States Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., and to his entire staff for the courteous attention given our claims, notwithstanding the great volume of work in the Pension Bureau due to the new pension legislation.

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following is a detailed statement showing the number of civil and Spanish war recipients of State and military aid under the provisions of chapter 587, acts of 1914, with amendments thereto, the number of dependents of soldiers of the Mexican Border service under the provisions of chapter 314, Acts of 1916, and the number of dependents of soldiers of the German war service under the provisions of chapter 179, General Acts of 1917, who were drawing aid in the various cities and towns in this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1917: —

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Abington, ...	47	—	4	51	51
Acton, ...	12	—	—	12	12
Acushnet, ...	3	—	2	5	4
Adams, ...	16	—	4	20	19
Agawam, ...	2	—	—	2	3
Alford, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Amesbury, ...	33	—	11	44	42
Amherst, ...	13	—	1	14	16
Andover, ...	17	—	4	21	19
Arlington, ...	22	—	33	55	29
Ashburnham, ...	9	—	—	9	11
Ashby, ...	6	—	—	6	7
Ashfield, ...	8	—	—	8	9
Ashland, ...	18	—	3	21	18
Athol, ...	42	—	11	53	49
ATTLEBORO, ...	32	—	3	35	38
Auburn, ...	5	—	—	5	5
Avon, ...	12	—	1	13	15
Ayer, ...	5	—	—	5	6
Barnstable, ...	25	—	1	26	25
Barre, ...	8	—	6	14	9
Becket, ...	6	—	—	6	7

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Bedford, ...	4	—	—	4	4
Belchertown, ...	21	—	1	22	24
Bellingham, ...	13	—	1	14	12
Belmont, ...	12	—	2	14	12
Berkley, ...	2	—	—	2	2
Berlin, ...	9	—	—	9	8
Bernardston, ...	1	—	—	1	1
BEVERLY, ...	114	—	43	157	125
Billerica, ...	9	—	11	20	13
Blackstone, ...	7	—	2	9	18
Blandford, ...	5	—	—	5	4
Bolton, ...	9	—	—	9	8
BOSTON, ...	1,075	1	1,982	3,058	1,204
Bourne, ...	9	—	—	9	8
Boxborough, ...	2	—	—	2	2
Boxford, ...	3	—	2	5	5
Boylston, ...	7	—	—	7	7
Braintree, ...	32	—	5	37	36
Brewster, ...	5	—	—	5	5
Bridgewater, ...	24	—	6	30	25
Brimfield, ...	1	—	—	1	1
BROCKTON, ...	209	—	7	216	224
Brookfield, ...	15	—	3	18	16
Brookline, ...	26	—	44	70	23
Buckland, ...	9	—	—	9	11
Burlington, ...	4	—	1	5	4
CAMBRIDGE, ...	135	—	246	381	156
Canton, ...	6	—	1	7	5
Carlisle, ...	3	—	—	3	4
Carver, ...	7	—	1	8	7
Charlemont, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Charlton, ...	11	—	—	11	13
Chatham, ...	9	—	1	10	10
Chelmsford, ...	7	—	7	14	10
CHELSEA, ...	47	—	75	122	54
Cheshire, ...	12	—	—	12	13
Chester, ...	3	—	1	4	5

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Chesterfield, ...	7	-	-	7	7
CHICOPEE, ...	14	-	3	17	16
Chilmark, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Clarksburg, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Clinton, ...	18	-	19	37	14
Cohasset, ...	9	-	6	15	10
Colrain, ...	5	-	-	5	6
Concord, ...	8	-	4	12	9
Conway, ...	2	-	-	2	3
Cummington, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Dalton, ...	16	-	-	16	18
Dana, ...	10	-	-	10	10
Danvers, ...	65	-	9	74	62
Dartmouth, ...	14	-	1	15	14
Dedham, ...	15	-	10	25	16
Deerfield, ...	9	-	-	9	12
Dennis, ...	15	-	-	15	16
Dighton, ...	10	-	3	13	12
Douglas, ...	9	-	1	10	10
Dover, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Dracut, ...	7	-	7	14	4
Dudley, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Dunstable, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Duxbury, ...	23	-	1	24	22
East Bridgewater, ...	23	-	2	25	29
East Longmeadow, ...	3	-	-	3	2
Eastham, ...	1	-	1	2	3
Easthampton, ...	3	-	3	6	4
Easton, ...	18	-	-	18	20
Edgartown, ...	11	-	-	11	11
Egremont, ...	-	-	-	-	1
Enfield, ...	7	-	-	7	7
Erving, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Essex, ...	15	-	-	15	18
EVERETT, ...	64	-	79	143	77
Fairhaven, ...	33	-	6	39	33
FALL RIVER, ...	102	-	231	333	113

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Falmouth, ...	8	—	1	9	8
FITCHBURG, ...	49	—	45	94	58
Florida, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Foxborough, ...	18	—	2	20	19
Framingham, ...	50	—	12	62	57
Franklin, ...	14	—	4	18	19
Freetown, ...	10	—	—	10	11
Gardner, ...	23	—	2	25	23
Gay Head, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Georgetown, ...	32	—	1	33	42
Gill, ...	2	—	—	2	2
GLOUCESTER, ...	105	—	52	157	114
Goshen, ...	1	—	—	1	2
Gosnold, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Grafton, ...	13	—	—	13	15
Granby, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Granville, ...	2	—	—	2	2
Great Barrington, ...	16	—	2	18	20
Greenfield, ...	28	—	2	30	29
Greenwich, ...	3	—	—	3	4
Groton, ...	13	—	—	13	14
Groveland, ...	17	—	8	25	15
Hadley, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Halifax, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Hamilton, ...	5	—	—	5	7
Hampden, ...	7	—	—	7	7
Hancock, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Hanover, ...	26	—	2	28	28
Hanson, ...	24	—	1	25	30
Hardwick, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Harvard, ...	2	—	—	2	2
Harwich, ...	15	—	—	15	15
Hatfield, ...	2	—	—	2	3
HAVERHILL, ...	183	—	29	212	203
Hawley, ...	4	—	—	4	4
Heath, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Hingham, ...	28	—	3	31	32

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Hinsdale, ...	5	-	-	5	4
Holbrook, ...	16	-	2	18	19
Holden, ...	9	-	-	9	8
Holland, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Holliston, ...	14	-	2	16	16
HOLYOKE, ...	32	-	24	56	36
Hopedale, ...	5	-	-	5	7
Hopkinton, ...	26	-	2	28	26
Hubbardston, ...	12	-	-	12	13
Hudson, ...	24	-	4	28	21
Hull, ...	4	-	3	7	3
Huntington, ...	3	-	-	3	7
Ipswich, ...	29	-	3	32	32
Kingston, ...	17	-	2	19	16
Lakeville, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Lancaster, ...	5	-	-	5	7
Lanesborough, ...	7	-	1	8	7
LAWRENCE, ...	68	-	45	113	77
Lee, ...	19	-	-	19	21
Leicester, ...	11	-	-	11	12
Lenox, ...	3	-	-	3	3
LEOMINSTER, ...	39	-	44	83	47
Leverett, ...	6	-	-	6	6
Lexington, ...	8	-	3	11	8
Leyden, ...	3	-	-	3	1
Lincoln, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Littleton, ...	3	-	-	3	2
Longmeadow, ...	3	-	-	3	3
LOWELL, ...	188	-	244	432	208
Ludlow, ...	7	-	-	7	7
Lunenburg, ...	3	-	1	4	4
LYNN, ...	349	-	154	503	400
Lynnfield, ...	9	-	-	9	11
MALDEN, ...	99	-	121	220	116
Manchester, ...	12	-	1	13	12
Mansfield, ...	26	-	2	28	26
Marblehead, ...	151	-	16	167	170

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Marion, ...	8	-	-	8	10
MARLBOROUGH, ...	68	-	38	106	73
Marshfield, ...	32	-	-	32	30
Mashpee, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Mattapoisett, ...	7	-	-	7	9
Maynard, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Medfield, ...	5	-	-	5	7
MEDFORD, ...	72	-	83	155	78
Medway, ...	29	-	1	30	31
MELROSE, ...	38	-	28	66	43
Mendon, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Merrimac, ...	14	-	1	15	17
METHUEN, ...	12	-	5	17	13
Middleborough, ...	63	-	2	65	70
Middlefield, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Middleton, ...	17	-	-	17	19
Milford, ...	62	-	36	98	55
Millbury, ...	14	-	-	14	19
Millis, ...	-	-	1	1	1
Millville, ...	5	-	-	5	-
Milton, ...	15	-	2	17	14
Monroe, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Monson, ...	10	-	1	11	16
Montague, ...	23	-	3	26	26
Monterey, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Montgomery, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Mount Washington, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Nahant, ...	3	-	1	4	3
Nantucket, ...	18	-	3	21	21
Natick, ...	61	-	13	74	66
Needham, ...	14	-	5	19	11
New Ashford, ...	1	-	-	1	1
NEW BEDFORD, ...	168	-	48	216	185
New Braintree, ...	3	-	-	3	2
North Marlborough, ...	4	-	-	4	4
New Salem, ...	7	-	-	7	9
Newbury, ...	28	-	-	28	29

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
NEWBURYPORT, ...	116	-	32	148	131
NEWTON, ...	43	-	33	76	49
Norfolk, ...	4	-	-	4	4
NORTH ADAMS, ...	37	-	13	50	43
North Andover, ...	13	-	2	15	15
North Attleborough, ...	19	-	3	22	15
North Brookfield, ...	12	-	-	12	13
North Reading, ...	13	-	2	15	16
NORTHAMPTON, ...	41	-	29	70	42
Northborough, ...	7	-	1	8	8
Northbridge, ...	7	-	-	7	7
Northfield, ...	6	-	-	6	6
Norton, ...	10	-	-	10	13
Norwell, ...	25	-	1	26	28
Norwood, ...	6	-	5	11	7
Oak Bluffs, ...	5	-	-	5	6
Oakham, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Orange, ...	24	-	5	29	27
Orleans, ...	6	-	-	6	5
Otis, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Oxford, ...	12	-	-	12	14
Palmer, ...	8	-	1	9	13
Paxton, ...	4	-	-	4	4
PEABODY, ...	48	-	5	53	55
Pelham, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Pembroke, ...	22	-	-	22	29
Pepperell, ...	6	-	-	6	8
Peru, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Petersham, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Phillipston, ...	2	-	-	2	2
PITTSFIELD, ...	58	-	6	64	63
Plainfield, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Plainville, ...	6	-	-	6	6
Plymouth, ...	54	-	8	62	58
Plympton, ...	8	-	-	8	9
Prescott, ...	3	-	-	3	2
Princeton, ...	4	-	-	4	6

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Provincetown, ...	12	-	10	22	11
QUINCY, ...	58	-	24	82	73
Randolph, ...	48	-	1	49	53
Raynham, ...	10	-	1	11	12
Reading, ...	22	-	11	33	27
Rehoboth, ...	5	-	-	5	5
REVERE, ...	29	-	69	98	40
Richmond, ...	1	-	-	1	2
Rochester, ...	5	-	-	5	6
Rockland, ...	62	-	11	73	64
Rockport, ...	30	-	2	32	32
Rowe, ...	4	-	-	4	3
Rowley, ...	10	-	3	13	13
Royalston, ...	4	-	1	5	5
Russell, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Rutland, ...	4	-	-	4	6
SALEM, ...	167	-	24	191	181
Salisbury, ...	22	-	-	22	25
Sandisfield, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Sandwich, ...	12	-	-	12	12
Saugus, ...	41	-	25	66	41
Savoy, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Scituate, ...	30	-	4	34	29
Seekonk, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Sharon, ...	12	-	1	13	13
Sheffield, ...	9	-	-	9	11
Shelburne, ...	6	-	-	6	8
Sherborn, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Shirley, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Shrewsbury, ...	11	-	-	11	13
Shutesbury, ...	2	-	-	2	1
Somerset, ...	14	-	1	15	14
SOMERVILLE, ...	220	-	185	405	236
South Hadley, ...	6	-	-	6	8
Southampton, ...	2	-	-	2	3
Southborough, ...	9	-	-	9	10
Southbridge, ...	18	-	4	22	17

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Southwick, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Spencer, ...	28	-	3	31	31
SPRINGFIELD, ...	164	-	71	235	192
Sterling, ...	11	-	-	11	11
Stockbridge, ...	13	-	-	13	13
Stoneham, ...	48	-	25	73	51
Stoughton, ...	57	-	-	57	61
Stow, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Sturbridge, ...	4	-	2	6	5
Sudbury, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Sunderland, ...	-	-	-	-	1
Sutton, ...	12	-	-	12	15
Swampscott, ...	29	-	8	37	34
Swansea, ...	2	-	2	4	3
TAUNTON, ...	87	-	4	91	99
Templeton, ...	6	-	-	6	5
Tewksbury, ...	2	-	1	3	2
Tisbury, ...	5	-	-	5	5
Tolland, ...	-	-	-	-	1
Topsfield, ...	8	-	-	8	9
Townsend, ...	10	-	3	13	11
Truro, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Tyngsborough, ...	3	-	2	5	3
Tyringham, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Upton, ...	21	-	1	22	25
Uxbridge, ...	9	-	8	17	10
Wakefield, ...	40	-	27	67	50
Wales, ...	1	-	-	1	2
Walpole, ...	8	-	-	8	8
WALTHAM, ...	53	-	47	100	63
Ware, ...	8	-	1	9	8
Wareham, ...	34	-	4	38	30
Warren, ...	8	-	-	8	9
Warwick, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Washington, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Watertown, ...	13	-	17	30	15
Wayland, ...	10	-	2	12	12

	1917.				1916.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Webster, ...	16	-	2	18	15
Wellesley, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Wellfleet, ...	6	-	-	6	4
Wendell, ...	1	-	1	2	2
Wenham, ...	12	-	1	13	12
West Boylston, ...	4	-	1	5	5
West Bridgewater, ...	16	-	-	16	18
West Brookfield, ...	13	-	-	13	15
West Newbury, ...	21	-	1	22	23
West Springfield, ...	21	-	4	25	25
West Stockbridge, ...	5	-	-	5	4
West Tisbury, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Westborough, ...	25	-	2	27	28
Westfield, ...	72	-	10	82	72
Westford, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Westhampton, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Westminster, ...	10	-	-	10	12
Weston, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Westport, ...	4	-	1	5	4
Westwood, ...	2	-	-	2	1
Weymouth, ...	93	-	22	115	102
Whately, ...	2	-	-	2	3
Whitman, ...	71	-	7	78	77
Wilbraham, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Williamsburg, ...	6	-	-	6	8
Williamstown, ...	19	-	1	20	20
Wilmington, ...	6	-	3	9	7
Winchendon, ...	12	-	3	15	12
Winchester, ...	11	-	10	21	12
Windsor, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Winthrop, ...	16	-	26	42	16
WOBURN, ...	34	-	29	63	43
WORCESTER, ...	299	-	136	435	343
Worthington, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Wrentham, ...	13	-	-	13	14
Yarmouth, ...	7	-	-	7	9
	8,615	1	5,034	13,650	9,564

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE YEAR 1919



BOSTON

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APPROVED BY THE
SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 5, 1920.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 587, Acts of 1914, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the matter relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1918, and that part relating to pensions covering the year 1919.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Expenditures of State and military aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, as provided by law, and also expenditures on account of the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars and the Philippine insurrection, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, were made by 342 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1918, due and payable Nov. 10, 1919, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, ...	\$518,107 50
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, ...	9,233 50
State aid to dependents, German war service, ...	1,582,492 47
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, ...	10,068 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, ...	4,713 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border service, ...	150 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Germany, ...	430 00
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, ...	12,134 97
Total for 1918, ...	\$2,137,329 94

The approximate amount expended at the close of 1919 on account of soldiers of the German war and their dependents was \$2,825,000.

The Commonwealth is now being called upon to grant military aid to many ex-service men who incurred wounds or disability in the service and who are waiting for the adjustment of their cases by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance and the Federal Board for Vocational Training. The military aid so

granted is of such an amount as to give the soldier or sailor necessary support until the government has taken action on his claim. In the majority of such cases, however, we find it necessary to continue a reduced payment of military aid after the government award has been made, in order to enable the recipient to live in reasonable comfort during his convalescence.

The steady demobilization of service men since the signing of the armistice, Nov. 11, 1918, has decreased the amount of aid paid to dependents, so that the appropriation needed for reimbursement to the cities and towns for the year 1919 will be lessened by approximately \$900,000.

In view of the various legislative enactments of the last three years, which aim to care for soldiers and their dependents, there appears to be no need of special legislation at present. The recodification of the State and military aid and burial law by chapter 290, General Acts of 1919, brings all our war veterans and their dependents under the general application of the State and military aid law existing prior to the war with Germany, which, while being of immeasurable value to our soldiers and their dependents, simplifies the method of procedure and makes less confusion for the municipal authorities in the matter of preparation and allowance of claims.

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1918, was 8,471, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	2,872	Decrease, ...	385
Wives, ...	155	Decrease, ...	32
Widows, ...	5,428	Decrease, ...	407
Mothers, ...	5	Decrease, ...	5
Children, ...	10	Increase, ...	1
Army nurses, ...	1	Decrease, ...	1
Total, ...	8,471		

Net decrease of recipients during 1918, 829.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$61.16+.

The total number of State aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1918, was 162, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, ...	26	Decrease, ...	5
Wives, ...	1		
Widows, ...	91	Increase, ...	28
Mothers, ...	42	Increase, ...	1
Fathers, ...	1	Decrease, ...	1
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	162		

Net increase of recipients during 1918, 23.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$56.99+.

The total number of recipients of State aid, German war, for 1918, was 8,296, classified as follows: —

Wives, ...	2,967	Increase, ...	1,196
Widows, ...	21	Increase, ...	17
Mothers, ...	4,645	Increase, ...	1,648
Fathers, ...	338	Increase, ...	156
Brothers, ...	53	Increase, ...	20
Sisters, ...	164	Increase, ...	71
Children, ...	108	Increase, ...	60
Total, ...	8,296		

Net increase of recipients during 1918, 3,168.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$190.75+.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$15,361.50 — a decrease of \$1,664.10 from 1918 — was disbursed as follows: —

Civil war: —

Soldiers, ...	127	Decrease, ...	28
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Spanish war: —

Soldiers, ...	49	Decrease, ...	11
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Mexican Border service: —

Soldiers, ...	1	Decrease, ...	6
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German war: —

Soldiers, ...	4	Increase, ...	4
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Civil war: —

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	\$10,068 00
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$79.27+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

Spanish war:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	\$3,928 50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$85.40+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, ...	785 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$261.66+.	

Mexican Border service:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	150 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$150.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.	

German war service:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	210 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$70.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, ...	220 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$220.	

Total, ... \$15,361 50

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses under Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, as amended by Chapter 191, Acts of 1916, Chapter 160, Acts of 1917, Chapter 183, Acts of 1918, Chapter 129, General Acts of 1919, and Chapter 151, Section 2, General Acts of 1919.

The burial law was amended by chapter 129, General Acts of 1919, which increased the amount allowed from not exceeding \$50 to not exceeding \$60, and increased the limit of the burial expense from \$110 to \$135. It was further amended by chapter 151, section 2, General Acts of 1919, which includes army nurses who served in the German war.

Civil war:—

Soldiers, ...	136	Decrease, ...	171
Wives, ...	6	Decrease, ...	3
Widows, ...	88	Decrease, ...	111
Mothers, ...	—	Decrease, ...	1
Army nurses, ...	—		
	————— 230		

Spanish war:—

Soldiers, ...	9	Increase, ...	1
Widows, ...	—	Decrease, ...	1
Mothers, ...	1		
	————— 10		

Philippine insurrection:—

Soldiers, ...	2	Increase, ...	1
	2		

German war:—

Wives, ...	2	Increase, ...	2
Mothers, ...	2	Increase, ...	2
	4		

Total, ... 246

Net increase during 1918, 281.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$49.32+.

STATE AID AND BOUNTIES.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1918, as per statement of the Auditor of the

Commonwealth, were	\$42,959,597 95
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1918, paid in 1919, ...	2,137,329 94
Special laws, 1919, ...	640 00
Soldiers' Home, 1919, ...	176,563 00

Total to Dec. 1, 1919, ...	\$45,274,130 89
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Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the civil war to Dec. 1,

1918, ...	\$17,872,859 82
Gratuities (Acts of 1912, chapter 702; Acts of 1913, chapters 105 and 443), ...	571,375 00
Gratuities (General Acts of 1919, chapters 283 and 342), ...	14,826,575 00
	33,270,809 82

Total to Dec. 1, 1919, ...	\$78,544,940 71
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PERSONNEL.

The office force has worked faithfully during the war in investigating and attending to the needs of our soldiers and sailors and their dependents. It is a satisfaction to know that not one returning soldier or sailor has expressed anything but appreciation of the treatment of his dependents during the time of his war service, nor has a single valid complaint from a dependent of the treatment accorded by this department been found to be justified when an appeal was taken to higher authority.

During the war and subsequent thereto, the work of this department increased tremendously, which necessitated a larger clerical force and more investigations by our agents, but by the co-operation of every member of the office force and the willingness of every person connected with the office to spend long hours day after day and week after week, we were able to examine and approve claims with the least possible delay, and payments were effected after the first allowance had been made with almost clocklike regularity.

As Commissioner, I would be lacking in gratitude if I did not express my appreciation of the efforts of the municipal authorities to see that the distress caused by the absence in the service of some supporting member of the family who applied for aid was relieved by an allowance of aid under the excellent and liberal State aid laws which were passed; and when the distress was increased by the failure of the Bureau of War Risk Insurance to function regularly, the local agents met the situation with renewed industry and intelligence.

Our agents examined about 9,000 outside cases during the year 1918, and about 1,500 cases were examined in the office.

This department is indebted to Col. Frank P. Williams, surgeon-general of the Commonwealth, who has given freely of his time and professional skill in the examination of German war military aid applicants, for the careful diagnoses which enabled us to reach a proper determination as to the amount of aid that should be granted in each case. The vast experience of Colonel Williams in the treatment of wounded and gassed soldiers in his overseas' service is now of incalculable help, not

only to the Commonwealth, but also to wounded and sick soldiers and sailors.

Chapter 587, Acts of 1914, expired by statutory limitation Dec. 31, 1919. I therefore deem it advisable to publish the recodification of the law relating to State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers.

CHAPTER 290, GENERAL ACTS OF 1919.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO STATE AND MILITARY AID AND TO THE BURIAL OF
INDIGENT SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of state aid and pensions, appointed under the provisions of chapter one hundred and ninety-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and two, shall perform the duties required of him under the laws relative to state and military aid. He shall investigate, so far as the interests of the commonwealth may require, all payments for state and military aid under the provisions of this act. He shall be a state agent for the settlement of pensions, bounty and back pay claims of citizens of this commonwealth against the government of the United States, shall be allowed his travelling expenses when it is necessary for him to visit the city of Washington, and may expend for the said purposes and for all other expenses necessary to the proper performance of his duties such sums as the general court may appropriate. He shall furnish information, prepare papers and expedite the adjudication of claims, and assist claimants in proving their cases, and shall keep a record of the work done in his office and make an annual report thereof to the general court. The deputy commissioner appointed under the provisions of said chapter one hundred and ninety-two shall be subject to the direction and control of the commissioner. In case the commissioner is temporarily absent or unable from any cause to perform the duties of his office, the deputy shall perform the duties of the commissioner until such absence or disability ceases. The commissioner shall receive an annual salary of thirty-two hundred dollars, and the deputy commissioner shall receive an annual salary of twenty-three hundred dollars, and each shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office. The commissioner may, with the approval of the governor and council, appoint a chief clerk and not more than five other clerks and stenographers and twelve agents. The salaries of said chief clerk, clerks, stenographers and agents shall be fixed in accordance with the provisions of chapter two hundred and twenty-eight of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and eighteen and within the limit of the amount annually appropriated therefor by the general court.

SECTION 2. A city or town may raise money, and, under the direction of the mayor and aldermen or officers or board having the powers of mayor and aldermen, or selectmen, or, in Boston, subject to the order of the city

council, as to the amounts to be paid to beneficiaries, but under the direction of the soldiers' relief commissioner, pay state or military aid to, or expend it for, any worthy person, subject to the conditions specified in this chapter. Whenever money is expended for any person within the provisions of this act, no officer of any city or town shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, direct, or in any way interfere with the recipient of such aid in the matter of the person, partnership or corporation to whom or to which, or the place at which the recipient shall give his custom; and whoever violates this provision shall be subject to a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars. No city or town, and no department or official of any city or town in this commonwealth shall publish in any annual or other report for general distribution to the public or to the citizens of any city or town the names of any persons receiving aid under the provisions of the following sections.

STATE AID.

SECTION 3. The recipient of state aid shall have a residence, and shall actually reside, in the city or town from which such aid is received, shall not receive aid from any other city or town in the commonwealth or from any other state, shall be in such needy circumstances as to require public assistance, and, if a soldier, sailor or nurse, shall have been honorably discharged from all appointments and enlistments in the army or navy, shall be so far disabled, as the result of his service in the army or navy, as to prevent him from following his usual occupation, and shall belong to one of the following classes:

First Class.

Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth in the civil war, between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the first day of September in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five; or who served in such army or navy in the military organizations of this commonwealth known as three months' men, ninety days' men or one hundred days' men mustered into the service of the United States in April, May, June or July in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or in April, May, July or August in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, or who, having their residence and actually residing in this commonwealth at the time of their enlistment, either served to the credit of some other state in such army or navy, between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the eighteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or served in such army or navy, having been mustered into the service of the United States at some time between the first day of May and the first day of October in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while having a residence and actually living in this commonwealth and while a member of one of the organizations of the volunteer militia, known as the Boston Cadets, the Salem Cadets, the

Eighth Battery of Light Artillery, or Company B of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry; or who served in said navy, being one of the persons included in the list of officers, sailors and marines prepared by the adjutant general in accordance with chapter fifteen of the resolves of eighteen hundred and seventy-five and chapter eight of the resolves of eighteen hundred and eighty, having been appointed or mustered into and having served in the naval service of the United States while an actual resident of this commonwealth; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during the civil war, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army or navy, while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein;

Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth in the war with Spain, which for the purposes of this chapter is defined as having begun on the fifteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and as having ended on the twelfth day of August in said year; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during said war, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein;

Soldiers mustered into the military service of the United States as part of the quota of this commonwealth called for service on the Mexican border in the year nineteen hundred and sixteen, and who are in receipt of pension or compensation from the United States for disability or illness incurred in such service, which for the purposes of this chapter shall be deemed to have begun on the nineteenth day of June in the year nineteen hundred and sixteen, and as having ended on the third day of February in the year nineteen hundred and seventeen, having been mustered into such service while an inhabitant of a city or town in this commonwealth and actually residing therein;

Any soldier, sailor, or nurse who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war with Germany, which for the purposes of this chapter shall be defined as having begun on the third day of February, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and as having ended on the eleventh day of November in the year nineteen hundred and eighteen: *provided*, that such soldier, sailor, or nurse, receives a pension or compensation from the United States government for disability incurred in such service, and was mustered into such service while an inhabitant of a city or town in the commonwealth and actually residing therein; and *provided, further*, that such soldier, sailor, or nurse was honorably discharged from such service by reason of illness or disability incurred therein.

Second Class.

Dependent relatives of invalid pensioners and of soldiers or sailors who served in the manner and under the limitations described for such service under class one who did not die in the service above defined and who were honorably discharged therefrom, as follows:

The wives and widowed mothers of invalid pensioners who served in the civil war, and the widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors dying in such service or after honorable discharge therefrom.

The widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom, or dying while in receipt of a pension from the United States or of state aid from this commonwealth, and the wife and widowed mother of any invalid pensioner of the Spanish war service.

The widow and children under sixteen years of age of any person who incurred disability during service on the Mexican border as defined in class one and has died from such disability, either while in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom: *provided*, that only such children whose birth occurred prior to said discharge or to the first day of January nineteen hundred and eighteen may receive state aid under this chapter.

The dependent widow, dependent widowed mother and dependent children up to the age of sixteen of any soldier, sailor, or nurse who died while in such service during the German war as defined in class one, or who shall die after an honorable discharge from such service from injuries received or disabilities or illness incurred therein, or any child dependent by reason of physical or mental incapacity; *provided*, that the children were in being prior to his or her discharge or prior to the termination of said war as herein defined, or any person who stood to him or her in the relationship of a parent for five years prior to such service.

There shall also be included in this class the crippled or otherwise helpless children, whether minors or adults, of soldiers or sailors who served in either the civil war or the war with Spain: *provided*, that such children are in receipt of a pension from the United States.

Third Class.

Dependent wives, and children up to sixteen years of age, widows and widowed mothers of soldiers, sailors, and nurses, entitled to state aid as defined in class one of this section, who appear on the rolls of their regiments or companies in the office of the adjutant general to be missing or to have been captured by the enemy, and who were not exchanged and have not returned from captivity, and whom the city or town officers granting such aid have good reason to believe to be dead.

Fourth Class.

Fathers or mothers, the fathers being living, of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners, and who died in such service, if such parents were receiving aid on the eighteenth day of May in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

Fathers or mothers, the fathers being living, of soldiers or sailors who served in the German war, in the same manner and under the same limita-

tions described herein for the service of said soldiers or sailors, and who died in such service, if such parents had been in receipt of state war allowance between February third nineteen hundred and seventeen and November eleventh nineteen hundred and eighteen. No aid shall be granted to persons in this class unless in each case the mayor and aldermen, or officers or board having the powers of mayor and aldermen, selectmen, or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, are satisfied, on evidence first reported to the commissioner of state aid and satisfactory to him, that justice and necessity require a continuance of the aid to prevent actual suffering.

Fifth Class.

Women who served not less than three months as nurses in the army hospitals of the United States between the nineteenth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-one and the first day of September in the year eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or who served not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals of the United States between the fifteenth day of February in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and the twelfth day of April in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, or who served in the war with Germany for not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals between the third day of February nineteen hundred and seventeen, and the eleventh day of November in the year nineteen hundred and eighteen, and who for three consecutive years next prior to the date of application for aid, shall have been actually resident in this commonwealth, and who shall not be in receipt of an annuity from this commonwealth, if the municipal authorities are satisfied, on evidence first reported to and found satisfactory by the commissioner of state aid, that the service was actually rendered and that justice and necessity require the granting of aid. The amount of such aid and its duration shall be determined by the commissioner of state aid.

SECTION 4. The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before the eleventh day of April in the year nineteen hundred and five, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service; and, if his widow, prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the war with Germany unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to July first, in the year nineteen hundred and nineteen.

SECTION 5. Of the persons to or for whom state aid is paid under any special act or resolve, designating them by name, and passed after the first day of June in the year eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, or to or

for whom state aid was then being paid under any special act or resolve then repealed, all soldiers and sailors shall be held to belong to the first class, and all dependent relatives of soldiers and sailors to the second class, of section three, notwithstanding the limitations of the said classes; and state aid may be paid to or for such persons in the same manner and with the same limitations as it is paid to or for other persons of their respective classes; but no aid shall be paid to or for any person under the provisions of this section contrary to any limitation or condition of the original special act or resolve authorizing state aid to be paid to or for him.

SECTION 6. No state aid shall be paid to or for a person of the first class of section three exceeding in any one month three fourths of the monthly amount of his United States pension or compensation, nor exceeding six dollars in any one month; or to or for a person of the second, third, fourth or fifth class of said section exceeding six dollars in any one month; and no more than twelve dollars shall be paid to or for all dependent relatives of any one soldier or sailor in any one month. State aid shall not be paid to or for any soldier or sailor on account of service in the war with Spain, or to his dependent relatives, unless he enlisted or was appointed in the service of the United States after the fourteenth day of February and prior to the twelfth day of August in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight; but it may be allowed to or for volunteers mustered into the service of the United States in Massachusetts regiments after said twelfth day of August but prior to the first day of January, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, who shall otherwise be qualified to receive the same, and to or for their dependent relatives.

SECTION 7. Applicants for state aid shall, before any payment thereof to them, state in writing under oath the name, age and residence of the person for whom such aid is sought, his relation to the person who rendered the service entitling the applicant to aid, the company, regiment or vessel in or to which the officer, soldier or sailor enlisted or was appointed and in which he last served; the date and place of such enlistment, if known; the duration of such service and the reason upon which the claim for aid is founded; and shall furnish such official certificates of record, evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required. The original papers in each case shall be filed with the commissioner of state aid, who shall from time to time provide each city and town with blank forms for the use of applicants for aid.

SECTION 8. Said commissioner shall determine all controversies between invalid pensioners and city and town authorities relative to claims for state aid. He may refuse to decide on the necessity of a claimant for aid, but if he shall determine that a claimant is entitled thereto he may authorize its payment to him monthly for not more than one year, under such limitations as he may impose. An appeal may be taken from his determination to the governor and council, whose decision shall be final.

MILITARY AID.

SECTION 9. The recipient of military aid shall belong to and have the qualifications of one of the four following classes: —

First Class.

Each person of the first class shall have his settlement in the city or town aiding him; shall have served as a soldier, sailor, marine, nurse, or commissioned officer in the manner and under the limitations prescribed in the first class of section three; shall have been honorably discharged or released from active duty in such United States service and from all appointments and enlistments therein; shall be poor and indigent and, by reason of sickness or other physical disability, in such need as would entitle him to relief under the pauper laws; shall not be, directly or indirectly, in receipt of any other state or military aid, or of any pension for services rendered or disabilities incurred either in the Civil or Spanish wars, Mexican border service or German war service. The disability must have arisen from causes independent of his military or naval service aforesaid.

Second Class.

Each person of the second class shall have his settlement in the city or town aiding him, and shall be an invalid pensioner, entitled to receive state aid, whose income from pension or government compensation and state aid is inadequate for his relief, and who would otherwise receive relief under the pauper laws.

Third Class.

Each person of the third class shall have all the qualifications of persons of the first class except settlement, and shall have been a continuous resident of this commonwealth during the three years last preceding his receipt of military aid, and he or she shall be a resident of the city or town granting the aid.

Fourth Class.

Each person of the fourth class shall have all the qualifications of persons of the second class except settlement, and shall have been a continuous resident of this commonwealth during the three years last preceding his or her receipt of military aid, and shall be a resident of the city or town granting aid.

SECTION 10. A city or town shall not render military aid to a person of the third or fourth class until it has furnished to the commissioner of state aid such evidence as may be required that the applicant is entitled to receive aid and has received from said commissioner an order fixing the maximum amount which may be paid a month and the period during which aid may be allowed, and stating such other conditions as the commissioner may impose relative to such aid. The said order may be re-

voked or modified by the commissioner by giving written notice to the city or town which procures it.

SECTION 11. No person shall be compelled to receive military aid without his consent, nor shall any person be compelled to receive military aid in an almshouse or other public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires it, and, except in such case, it shall be paid to or expended for those persons only who live separate from persons receiving support as paupers. The mayor and aldermen, selectmen, soldiers' relief commissioner or the commissioner of state aid may require a person to whom military aid is granted to pay over his or her United States pension or compensation to them to be expended for his or her relief before receiving such aid. In all cases where an applicant for military aid has a settlement outside the city or town in which application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the city or town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner of state aid and pensions.

GENERAL PROVISIONS.

SECTION 12. No person shall at the same time receive both state and military aid.

SECTION 13. State and military aid shall be paid to or applied solely for the benefit of the person for whom it is intended, and only so much shall be paid to or for him as may be necessary to afford him reasonable relief or support. It shall not be paid to or for any person who is able to support himself, or who is in receipt of income or owns property sufficient for his support, nor to an amount in excess of such amount as is necessary, in addition to his income and property, for his personal relief or support, nor to or for any soldier, sailor, pensioner, dependent relative or nurse if the necessity therefor is caused by the voluntary idleness or continuous vicious or intemperate habits of the soldier, sailor, nurse or pensioner on whose account such aid is sought, nor to or for any person who has been dishonorably discharged from any national soldiers' or sailors' home or from the soldiers' home in this commonwealth, unless the commissioner of state aid, after a hearing, shall otherwise determine. Nor shall state or military aid be paid to any person who at the time of entering the federal service was a subject or citizen of a neutral country, had filed his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and afterward withdrew such intention under the provisions of the act of congress approved on the ninth day of July in the year nineteen hundred and eighteen, nor to any person designated upon his discharge as a conscientious objector. State aid shall not be subject to the trustee process, and no assignment thereof shall be valid. No back state aid shall be paid, nor shall state aid be paid to or for any person convicted of crime unless the municipal authorities and the commissioner of state aid otherwise determine, nor shall state or military aid be paid if the pensioner, soldier, sailor or nurse deserted from the service of the United States either in the war of the rebellion, the war with Spain,

the Mexican border or the German war service, or is wilfully absent from his family and neglects to render them such assistance as he is able to give.

SECTION 14. The full amount expended for state or military aid by any city or town, the names of the persons aided and the classes to which they severally belong, the amounts paid to or for each person, the reasons therefor, the names of the persons on account of whose services the aid was granted, the names, if any, of the companies, regiments or vessels in which they respectively enlisted, or to which they were appointed, and in which they last served, and the relationship of each person who was aided to the soldier or sailor on account of whose service the aid was granted, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall, within the first ten days of the month following the month in which the expenditure was made, be certified, under oath, by the mayor, treasurer and city clerk of any city or a majority of the selectmen of any town disbursing the same, to said commissioner on blank forms to be provided by him, and in a manner approved by him. The commissioner shall examine the certificates thereof and allow and endorse thereon such amounts as, in his judgment, have been paid and reported according to the provisions of this act, and shall transmit the certificates to the auditor. The commissioner may decide upon the necessity of the amount paid in each case, and may allow any part thereof which he may deem proper and lawful and which, in cases of payment to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to receive military aid, he shall also find to have been made according to his orders; but he shall allow and endorse the amounts which he has specifically authorized to be paid under and according to his decisions made under section eight of this act. The whole of the amounts legally paid as aforesaid and so allowed for state aid, and all payments to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to military aid, and one-half of all payments made to persons of the first or second class entitled to military aid, but none of the expenses attending the payment of state or military aid, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after such expenditure.

SECTION 15. The commissioner may, with the consent of the governor, appoint, as occasion may require, one or more disinterested persons who shall investigate any claims against the commonwealth for state or military aid, may examine any persons to or for whom such aid has been paid, investigate the reasons therefor and all matters relating to the granting of such aid, and shall report their doings to the commissioner. The reasonable expenses of the commissioner, and the expenses and compensation of any such disinterested person, approved by the commissioner, and allowed by the governor and council, shall be paid by the commonwealth. Municipal authorities charged with the disbursing of state or military aid shall from time to time, after its original allowance, make such investigations of the necessities and qualifications of the person aided as to prevent any payment thereof contrary to the provisions of this act.

SECTION 16. The words "pensioner", "soldier" and "sailor", as used in this act, shall be held to include a commissioned officer, and the word "sailor" shall be held to include a marine.

BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS, ETC.

SECTION 17. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner of state aid and pensions, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier, sailor or marine who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after the fourteenth day of February, in the year eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to the fourth day of July in the year nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican insurrection of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the present war with Germany: *provided*, that the soldier, sailor or marine dies in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein, and also the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of such army nurses as are entitled to state aid under section three of this act, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to the twenty-seventh day of June in the year eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and ten; and no wife or widow of any soldier, sailor or marine of the Mexican insurrection or of the present war with Germany unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from such service. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of the death, or after final interment if the soldier, sailor or marine dies in the German war service, and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner of state aid and pensions, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

SECTION 18. The expense of a burial as aforesaid shall not exceed sixty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent who caused the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed the sum of one hundred and thirty-five dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground which is used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part of any cemetery or burial ground so used. Relatives of the deceased who

are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, sailor or marine, the regiment, company or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner of state aid may require, shall be certified under oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the city or town expending the amount, within ninety days after the burial; and the commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as, in his judgment, have been paid, and reported according to the foregoing provisions, and shall transmit the certificate to the auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several cities and towns on or before the tenth day of November in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 19. So far as the provisions of this act are the same as those of existing laws, they shall be construed as a continuation thereof and not as new enactments.

SECTION 20. This act shall take effect on the first day of January in the year nineteen hundred and twenty. [*Approved July 7, 1919.*]

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Section 3, chapter 151, General Acts of 1919, amends the original soldiers' relief law (see chapter 79, sections 18 and 19 of the Revised Laws) so as to include persons who served in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States during the war with Germany, and were honorably discharged therefrom or released from active duty therein, and to their dependents.

The soldiers' relief law is amended further by chapter 171, General Acts of 1919, which extends the right to draw soldiers' relief to civil war widows who have acquired a legal settlement in their own right before Aug. 12, 1916, regardless of whether their soldier or sailor husbands were legally settled in any city or town in this Commonwealth at the time of their death.

The soldiers' relief law now enjoins officials in charge of such relief to notify corresponding officials of the city or town of the applicant's legal settlement, and also the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, when a claim is made to them for military aid or soldiers' relief and it is found that the legal settlement is outside the city or town in which such application is made.

The including of soldiers and sailors of the German war service and their dependents in the benefits of the soldiers' relief law, together with the requirement that notice shall be sent to this department in outside cases, has placed added responsibility on this office, and judging from the nature and number of the appeals which have been made to this department, the passage of this legislation has worked well for the municipalities and the applicants.

The Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions is also required under the statute to investigate complaints of aggrieved parties when soldiers' relief has been refused by the city or town officials having charge of its disbursement. We have had many such appeals, and our decisions in these cases appear to have been satisfactory to those concerned.

CHAPTER 151, GENERAL ACTS OF 1919.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR STATE AND MILITARY AID AND SOLDIERS' RELIEF
FOR PERSONS IN THE MILITARY OR NAVAL SERVICE OF THE UNITED
STATES IN THE WAR WITH GERMANY, AND FOR THEIR DEPENDENTS.

SECTION 3. The provisions of section eighteen of chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws and acts in amendment thereof providing soldiers' relief for veterans of the civil war and the Spanish and Philippine wars and persons dependent upon them shall apply also to those who served in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States during the present war with Germany, and shall have been honorably discharged therefrom or released from active duty therein, and to their dependents.

SECTION 4. The provisions of this act shall not apply to any person who at the time of entering the federal service was a subject or citizen of a neutral country who had filed his intention to become a citizen of the United States and who afterward withdrew such intention under the provisions of the act of congress approved July ninth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, nor to any person designated upon his discharge as a conscientious objector.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved May 3, 1919.*]

CHAPTER 171, GENERAL ACTS OF 1919.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE GRANTING OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF AND MILITARY
AID.

Whereas, The relief and aid provided for by the following act are needed at once, therefore the act is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter seventy-nine of the Revised Laws, as amended by chapter one hundred and sixteen of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and sixteen, and as affected by chapter fifty-eight of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and seventeen, is hereby further amended by striking out section eighteen and substituting the following: — *Section 18.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a city or town in the commonwealth, becomes from any cause except his own criminal or wilful misconduct, poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under the age of sixteen years, or for a dependent father or mother; or if such person dies leaving a widow or such minor children or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents by the city or town in which they or any of them have a legal settlement; but should such person have all the said qualifications except

settlement, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August the twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, shall also be eligible to receive relief under the provisions of this section. Such relief shall be furnished by the mayor and aldermen or the selectmen, or, in the city of Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive the said relief at home, or at such other place as the mayor and aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner, may deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an almshouse or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or unless his parents or guardian so elect, in case he is a minor.

In all cases where an applicant for military aid or soldiers' relief has a settlement outside of the city or town in which the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the city or town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner of state aid and pensions.

SECTION 2. Chapter one hundred and eight of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and eighteen is hereby amended by inserting after section ten the following new section: — *Section 11.* In all cases where an applicant for military aid hereunder has a settlement outside of the city or town in which the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the city or town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner of state aid and pensions.

SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon its passage. [*Approved May 16, 1919.*]

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a statement in detail of the pension business of this office for the year ending Dec. 31, 1919:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), original, ...	18
Soldiers (General Law), increase, ...	12
Soldiers (Act May 11, 1912), ...	12
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian wars, ...	6
Soldiers (Act Oct. 6, 1917), German war, ...	5
Widows (General Law), ...	6
Widows (Act Sept. 8, 1916), ...	248
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian wars, ...	6
Widows (Act July 16, 1918), Spanish war, ...	85
Widows (restoration), ...	2
Widows (accrued), ...	15
Wives (one-half pension), ...	3
Reimbursement, ...	109
New pension certificates, ...	5
Payment unendorsed checks, ...	4
Application for six months' pay, ...	1
Old claims, ...	4
Twenty years' service pension, ...	1
Guardians' claims, ...	1
Arrears of pay, ...	2
Total, ...	545
Number of claims allowed, ...	489
Number of claims rejected, ...	178

There has been no new pension legislation enacted during the year 1919.

A large number of claims under the act of July 16, 1918, which grants a pension to certain widows and orphans of Spanish war soldiers and sailors, under specified conditions, have

been rejected because of the fact that the Pension Bureau regards the receipt of State aid and soldiers' relief as an income.

A clause in the act specifies that if the widow is in receipt of an annual net income in excess of \$250, aside from her daily labor, she is not eligible for a pension.

Many of the widows of Spanish war veterans have small children whom they must stay at home and care for, and, not being in a position to earn anything towards their support, are obliged to ask assistance under the laws pertaining to State aid and soldiers' relief.

The fact that the widow has no opportunity to earn a living and must therefore ask for aid does not have any effect on the interpretation of the law by the Pension Bureau, and the burden of caring for the widows and orphans of Spanish war veterans who served to the credit of Massachusetts is thus thrown upon the State.

The thanks of this department are due Hon. G. M. Saltzgaber, United States Pension Commissioner, Acting Pension Commissioner E. C. Tieman, and all their office staff, for courtesies extended to this department in the prosecution of claims.

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following is a detailed statement showing the number of civil and Spanish war recipients of State and military aid under the provisions of chapter 587, Acts of 1914, with amendments thereto, the number of dependents of soldiers of the Mexican Border service under the provisions of chapter 314, Acts of 1916, and the number of dependents of soldiers of the German war service under the provisions of chapter 179, General Acts of 1917, as amended by chapter 108, General Acts of 1918, who were drawing aid in the various cities and towns in this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1918:—

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Abington, ...	45	—	5	50	51
Acton, ...	9	—	—	9	12
Acushnet, ...	2	—	—	2	5
Adams, ...	14	—	—	14	20
Agawam, ...	3	—	1	4	2
Alford, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Amesbury, ...	31	—	8	39	44
Amherst, ...	11	—	1	12	14
Andover, ...	15	—	4	19	21
Arlington, ...	23	—	39	62	55
Ashburnham, ...	7	—	—	7	9
Ashby, ...	4	—	—	4	6
Ashfield, ...	7	—	—	7	8
Ashland, ...	17	—	6	23	21
Athol, ...	40	—	5	45	53
ATTLEBORO, ...	32	—	8	40	35
Auburn, ...	5	—	—	5	5
Avon, ...	10	—	6	16	13
Ayer, ...	5	—	1	6	5
Barnstable, ...	22	—	8	30	26
Barre, ...	8	—	4	12	14
Becket, ...	6	—	—	6	6

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Bedford, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Belchertown, ...	20	-	2	22	22
Bellingham, ...	11	-	4	15	14
Belmont, ...	13	-	8	21	14
Berkley, ...	2	-	1	3	2
Berlin, ...	8	-	1	9	9
Bernardston, ...	-	-	-	-	1
BEVERLY, ...	108	-	66	174	157
Billerica, ...	5	-	12	17	20
Blackstone, ...	6	-	2	8	9
Blandford, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Bolton, ...	8	-	1	9	9
BOSTON, ...	984	1	3,023	4,008	3,058
Bourne, ...	10	-	1	11	9
Boxborough, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Boxford, ...	1	-	-	1	5
Boylston, ...	7	-	-	7	7
Braintree, ...	26	-	6	32	37
Brewster, ...	5	-	-	5	5
Bridgewater, ...	20	-	1	21	30
Brimfield, ...	-	-	-	-	1
BROCKTON, ...	215	-	21	236	216
Brookfield, ...	15	-	4	19	18
Brookline, ...	27	-	75	102	70
Buckland, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Burlington, ...	4	-	1	5	5
CAMBRIDGE, ...	121	-	427	548	381
Canton, ...	7	-	3	10	7
Carlisle, ...	2	-	-	2	3
Carver, ...	7	-	-	7	8
Charlemont, ...	-	-	-	-	1
Charlton, ...	10	-	1	11	11
Chatham, ...	9	-	3	12	10
Chelmsford, ...	8	-	1	9	14
CHELSEA, ...	40	-	57	97	122
Cheshire, ...	10	-	-	10	12
Chester, ...	2	-	-	2	4

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Chesterfield, ...	6	-	-	6	7
CHICOPEE, ...	10		12	22	17
Chilmark, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Clarksburg, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Clinton, ...	13	-	6	19	37
Cohasset, ...	7	-	6	13	15
Colrain, ...	5	-	-	5	5
Concord, ...	7	-	4	11	12
Conway, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Cummington, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Dalton, ...	13	-	-	13	16
Dana, ...	9	-	-	9	10
Danvers, ...	51	-	9	60	74
Dartmouth, ...	14	-	-	14	15
Dedham, ...	6	-	7	13	25
Deerfield, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Dennis, ...	14	-	-	14	15
Dighton, ...	8	-	2	10	13
Douglas, ...	9	-	1	10	10
Dover, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Dracut, ...	4	-	4	8	14
Dudley, ...	2	-	1	3	1
Dunstable, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Duxbury, ...	19	-	-	19	24
East Bridgewater, ...	17	-	-	17	25
East Longmeadow, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Eastham, ...	2	-	1	3	2
Easthampton, ...	2	-	2	4	6
Easton, ...	15	-	2	17	18
Edgartown, ...	11	-	-	11	11
Egremont, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Enfield, ...	7	-	-	7	7
Erving, ...	3	-	1	4	4
Essex, ...	15	-	1	16	15
EVERETT, ...	58	-	103	161	143
Fairhaven, ...	29	-	4	33	39
FALL RIVER, ...	94	-	209	303	333

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Falmouth, ...	9	-	-	9	9
FITCHBURG, ...	47	-	45	92	94
Florida, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Foxborough, ...	17	-	6	23	20
Framingham, ...	44	-	7	51	62
Franklin, ...	12	-	4	16	18
Freetown, ...	10	-	-	10	10
Gardner, ...	19	-	10	29	25
Gay Head, ...	1	-	-	1	-
Georgetown, ...	26	-	-	26	33
Gill, ...	-	-	-	-	2
GLOUCESTER, ...	93	-	64	157	157
Goshen, ...	2	-	-	2	1
Gosnold, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Grafton, ...	11	-	1	12	13
Granby, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Granville, ...	3	-	-	3	2
Great Barrington, ...	16	-	-	16	18
Greenfield, ...	27	-	8	35	30
Greenwich, ...	5	-	-	5	3
Groton, ...	13	-	-	13	13
Groveland, ...	15	-	5	0	25
Hadley, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Halifax, ...	2	-	-	2	3
Hamilton, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Hampden, ...	5	-	-	5	7
Hancock, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Hanover, ...	20	-	3	23	28
Hanson, ...	23	-	3	26	25
Hardwick, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Harvard, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Harwich, ...	14	-	1	15	15
Hatfield, ...	2	-	-	2	2
HAVERHILL, ...	162	-	22	184	212
Hawley, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Heath, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Hingham, ...	23	-	8	31	31

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Hinsdale, ...	4	—	—	4	5
Holbrook, ...	14	—	2	16	18
Holden, ...	9	—	—	9	9
Holland, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Holliston, ...	12	—	3	15	16
HOLYOKE, ...	27	—	63	90	56
Hopedale, ...	4	—	—	4	5
Hopkinton, ...	21	—	2	23	28
Hubbardston, ...	10	—	1	11	12
Hudson, ...	20	—	4	24	28
Hull, ...	2	—	1	3	7
Huntington, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Ipswich, ...	29	—	2	31	32
Kingston, ...	17	—	6	23	19
Lakeville, ...	2	—	—	2	2
Lancaster, ...	5	—	—	5	5
Lanesborough, ...	7	—	—	7	8
LAWRENCE, ...	63	—	53	116	113
Lee, ...	16	—	—	16	19
Leicester, ...	10	—	—	10	11
Lenox, ...	3	—	—	3	3
LEOMINSTER, ...	37	—	39	76	83
Leverett, ...	6	—	—	6	6
Lexington, ...	7	—	7	14	11
Leyden, ...	1	—	—	1	3
Lincoln, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Littleton, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Longmeadow, ...	4	—	—	4	3
LOWELL, ...	167	—	244	411	432
Ludlow, ...	5	—	3	8	7
Lunenburg, ...	3	—	—	3	4
LYNN, ...	320	—	168	488	503
Lynnfield, ...	9	—	—	9	9
MALDEN, ...	86	—	153	239	220
Manchester, ...	8	—	2	10	13
Mansfield, ...	18	—	1	19	28
Marblehead, ...	140	—	19	159	167

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Marion, ...	6	-	-	6	8
MARLBOROUGH, ...	59	-	38	97	106
Marshfield, ...	30	-	-	30	32
Mashpee, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Mattapoisett, ...	10	-	-	10	7
Maynard, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Medfield, ...	4	-	-	4	5
MEDFORD, ...	67	-	133	200	155
Medway, ...	29	-	6	35	30
MELROSE, ...	34	-	47	81	66
Mendon, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Merrimac, ...	12	-	-	12	15
METHUEN, ...	11	-	8	19	17
Middleborough, ...	53	-	4	57	65
Middlefield, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Middleton, ...	13	-	1	14	17
Milford, ...	56	-	28	84	98
Millbury, ...	13	-	-	13	14
Millis, ...	1	-	2	3	1
Millville, ...	6	-	3	9	5
Milton, ...	8	-	10	18	17
Monroe, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Monson, ...	10	-	1	11	11
Montague, ...	17	-	3	20	26
Monterey, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Montgomery, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Mount Washington, ...	-	-	-	-	-
Nahant, ...	2	-	1	3	4
Nantucket, ...	17	-	4	21	21
Natick, ...	57	-	13	70	74
Needham, ...	12	-	10	22	19
New Ashford, ...	1	-	-	1	1
NEW BEDFORD, ...	144	-	76	220	216
New Braintree, ...	2	-	-	2	3
North Marlborough, ...	2	-	-	2	4
New Salem, ...	6	-	-	6	7
Newbury, ...	23	-	-	28	28

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
NEWBURYPORT, ...	113	—	9	122	148
NEWTON, ...	35	—	27	62	76
Norfolk, ...	4	—	2	6	4
NORTH ADAMS, ...	30	—	7	37	50
North Andover, ...	9	—	3	12	15
North Attleborough, ...	13	—	4	17	22
North Brookfield, ...	9	—	1	10	12
North Reading, ...	10	—	2	12	15
NORTHAMPTON, ...	40	—	38	78	70
Northborough, ...	8	—	1	9	8
Northbridge, ...	4	—	1	5	7
Northfield, ...	5	—	—	5	6
Norton, ...	8	—	—	8	10
Norwell, ...	23	—	1	24	26
Norwood, ...	2	—	8	10	11
Oak Bluffs, ...	5	—	—	5	5
Oakham, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Orange, ...	25	—	1	26	29
Orleans, ...	5	—	3	8	6
Otis, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Oxford, ...	8	—	—	8	12
Palmer, ...	5	—	3	8	9
Paxton, ...	5	—	—	5	4
PEABODY, ...	50	—	29	79	53
Pelham, ...	5	—	—	5	4
Pembroke, ...	20	—	—	20	22
Pepperell, ...	5	—	—	5	6
Peru, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Petersham, ...	7	—	—	7	9
Phillipston, ...	2	—	—	2	2
PITTSFIELD, ...	52	—	9	61	64
Plainfield, ...	2	—	—	2	2
Plainville, ...	6	—	—	6	6
Plymouth, ...	46	—	8	54	62
Plympton, ...	6	—	—	6	8
Prescott, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Princeton, ...	5	—	—	5	4

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Provincetown, ...	10	-	6	16	22
QUINCY, ...	55	-	26	81	82
Randolph, ...	46	-	9	55	49
Raynham, ...	9	-	1	10	11
Reading, ...	19	-	9	28	33
Rehoboth, ...	5	-	-	5	5
REVERE, ...	31	-	57	88	98
Richmond, ...	2	-	-	2	1
Rochester, ...	4	-	-	4	5
Rockland, ...	50	-	16	66	73
Rockport, ...	26	-	2	28	32
Rowe, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Rowley, ...	10	-	4	14	13
Royalston, ...	5	-	-	5	5
Russell, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Rutland, ...	5	-	1	6	4
SALEM, ...	154	-	72	226	191
Salisbury, ...	21	-	1	22	22
Sandisfield, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Sandwich, ...	10	-	-	10	12
Saugus, ...	36	-	24	60	66
Savoy, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Scituate, ...	23	-	5	28	34
Seekonk, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Sharon, ...	9	-	2	11	13
Sheffield, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Shelburne, ...	7	-	-	7	6
Sherborn, ...	1	-	-	1	2
Shirley, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Shrewsbury, ...	12	-	-	12	11
Shutesbury, ...	1	-	-	1	2
Somerset, ...	13	-	3	16	15
SOMERVILLE, ...	206	-	260	466	405
South Hadley, ...	4	-	-	4	6
Southampton, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Southborough, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Southbridge, ...	17	-	8	25	22

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Southwick, ...	4	—	—	4	4
Spencer, ...	26	—	2	28	31
SPRINGFIELD, ...	145	—	169	314	235
Sterling, ...	10	—	1	11	11
Stockbridge, ...	12	—	—	12	13
Stoneham, ...	43	—	13	56	73
Stoughton, ...	45	—	5	50	57
Stow, ...	3	—	—	3	4
Sturbridge, ...	4	—	—	4	6
Sudbury, ...	3	—	—	3	3
Sunderland, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Sutton, ...	11	—	—	11	12
Swampscott, ...	26	—	12	38	37
Swansea, ...	1	—	—	1	4
TAUNTON, ...	78	—	6	84	91
Templeton, ...	5	—	1	6	6
Tewksbury, ...	3	—	3	6	3
Tisbury, ...	6	—	—	6	5
Tolland, ...	—	—	—	—	—
Topsfield, ...	8	—	—	8	8
Townsend, ...	8	—	6	14	13
Truro, ...	2	—	1	3	3
Tyngsborough, ...	2	—	1	3	5
Tyringham, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Upton, ...	20	—	—	20	22
Uxbridge, ...	9	—	6	15	17
Wakefield, ...	33	—	7	40	67
Wales, ...	2	—	—	2	1
Walpole, ...	7	—	3	10	8
WALTHAM, ...	53	—	78	131	100
Ware, ...	7	—	4	11	9
Wareham, ...	29	—	1	30	38
Warren, ...	7	—	1	8	8
Warwick, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Washington, ...	1	—	—	1	1
Watertown, ...	13	—	17	30	30
Wayland, ...	10	—	1	11	12

	1918.				1917.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Webster, ...	17	-	3	20	18
Wellesley, ...	3	-	1	4	4
Wellfleet, ...	7	-	1	8	6
Wendell, ...	1	-	-	1	2
Wenham, ...	12	-	-	12	13
West Boylston, ...	4	-	-	4	5
West Bridgewater, ...	11	-	-	11	16
West Brookfield, ...	12	-	1	13	13
West Newbury, ...	18	-	5	23	22
West Springfield, ...	21	-	6	27	25
West Stockbridge, ...	2	-	-	2	5
West Tisbury, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Westborough, ...	23	-	4	27	27
Westfield, ...	67	-	15	82	82
Westford, ...	9	-	-	9	9
Westhampton, ...	1	-	-	1	1
Westminster, ...	9	-	-	9	10
Weston, ...	3	-	-	3	4
Westport, ...	3	-	-	3	5
Westwood, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Weymouth, ...	74	-	22	96	115
Whately, ...	2	-	-	2	2
Whitman, ...	58	-	6	64	78
Wilbraham, ...	4	-	-	4	4
Williamsburg, ...	6	-	1	7	6
Williamstown, ...	16	-	2	18	20
Wilmington, ...	7	-	-	7	9
Winchendon, ...	12	-	1	13	15
Winchester, ...	10	-	27	37	21
Windsor, ...	2	-	-	2	3
Winthrop, ...	12	-	30	42	42
WOBURN, ...	31	-	13	44	63
WORCESTER, ...	268	-	154	422	435
Worthington, ...	3	-	-	3	3
Wrentham, ...	12	-	-	12	13
Yarmouth, ...	7	-	-	7	7
	7,771	1	6,833	14,605	13,650

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1920



BOSTON

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APPROVED BY THE
SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 7, 1921.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 290, General Acts of 1919, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the matter relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1919, and that part relating to pensions covering the year 1920.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, as well as disbursements on account of the burial of indigent soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, were made by 340 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1919, due and payable on or before Nov. 10, 1920, as follows: —

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war, ...	\$465,731 80
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain, ...	10,820 00
State aid to dependents, German war service, ...	448,450 59
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war, ...	8,887 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain, ...	5,690 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border service, ...	75 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Germany, ...	15,672 76
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and dependents, ...	10,453 65

Total for 1919, ... \$965,781 80

We have at present many requests for military aid from ex-service men of the world war which would not have been made had there been a speedy adjustment of their claims for compensation by the War Risk Bureau or placement in vocational training. Immediately upon receipt of such requests for military aid we communicate with the various governmental bureaus in order to ascertain what evidence or information is needed to expedite the adjudication of the claim for compensation or vocational training, as the case may be. This Department has received from the War Risk Bureau unvarying courtesy

in their prompt attention to correspondence and to the granting of compensation allowances in cases where there was no doubt as to the soldier's disability being of service origin. The granting of these allowances lessened the financial responsibility of the State and the various municipalities for the care of these soldiers.

The including of all our veterans and dependents under chapter 290, General Acts of 1919, has worked for the well-being of recipients, and has facilitated the work of the disbursing officials throughout the Commonwealth by reason of the uniformity of treatment of beneficiaries.

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1919, was 7,644, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	2,513	Decrease, ...	359
Wives, ...	118	Decrease, ...	37
Widows, ...	4,995	Decrease, ...	433
Mothers, ...	5		
Children, ...	12	Increase, ...	2
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	7,644		

Net decrease of recipients during 1919, 827.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.92+.

The total number of State aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1919, was 178, classified as follows: —

Soldiers, ...	18	Decrease, ...	8
Wives, ...	1		
Widows, ...	114	Increase, ...	23
Mothers, ...	42		
Fathers, ...	1		
Children, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
Army nurses, ...	1		
Total, ...	178		

Net increase of recipients during 1919, 16.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.78+.

The total number of recipients of State aid, German war, for 1919, was 6,091, classified as follows: —

Wives, ...	2,088	Decrease, ...	879
Widows, ...	37	Increase, ...	16
Mothers, ...	3,463	Decrease, ...	1,182
Fathers, ...	254	Decrease, ...	84
Brothers, ...	41	Decrease, ...	12
Sisters, ...	120	Decrease, ...	44
Children	88	Decrease, ...	20
Total, ...	6,091		

Net decrease of recipients during 1919, 2,205.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$73.62+.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$30,325.76 — an increase of \$14,964.26 over 1918 — was disbursed as follows: —

Civil war: —

Soldiers, ...	114	Decrease, ...	13
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Spanish war: —

Soldiers, ...	53	Increase, ...	4
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Mexican Border service: —

Soldiers, ...	1		
---------------------	---	--	--

German war: —

Soldiers, ...	185	Increase, ...	181
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Civil war: —

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	\$8,887 50
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$77.96+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

Spanish war: —

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	\$4,460 50
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$87.46+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, ...	1,230 00
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$410.

Mexican Border service: —

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	75 00
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$75.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

German war service: —

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, ...	\$13,170 76
Average cost to State per person aided, \$76.13+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, ...	2,502 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$147.17+.	
Total, ...	\$30,325 76

Up to the close of 1920 the Commonwealth expended for the aid of world war soldiers and their dependents approximately \$2,663,730.90.

We are now carrying on our rolls the dependents of 41 men who are still serving in their world war enlistments, and it must be expected that as the ex-service men and their dependents become cognizant of the various laws passed for their benefit, the number of applications for State and military aid will increase rather than diminish, thereby necessitating more investigations as to the need of applicants, and their eligibility under the provisions of the law.

Burial Expenses of Indigent Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Chapter 290, Sections 17-19, General Acts of 1919.

Chapter 290 provides for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who die without leaving sufficient means to defray their funeral expenses. The payment of not exceeding \$60 can be authorized in each case if the total amount of the burial expense does not exceed the sum of \$135.

During the year 1919, 217 persons were buried at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$10,453.65. They are classified as follows: —

Civil war: —

Soldiers, ...	120	Decrease, ...	16
Wives, ...	3	Decrease, ...	3
Widows, ...	73	Decrease, ...	15
	196		

Spanish war: —

Soldiers, ...	13	Increase, ...	4
Wives, ...	1	Increase, ...	1
Mothers, ...	1		
	15		

Philippine Insurrection: —

Soldiers, ...	2
	2

German war: —

Soldiers, ...	2	Increase, ...	2
Wives, ...	1	Decrease, ...	1
Mothers, ...	1	Decrease, ...	1
	4		

Total, ... 217

Net decrease during 1919, 29.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$48.17+.

STATE AID AND BOUNTIES.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1919, were

	\$45,274,130 89
State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1919, paid in 1920, ...	965,781 80
Special laws, 1920, ...	540 00
Soldiers' Home, 1920, ...	307,000 00
Total to Dec. 1, 1920, ...	\$46,547,452 69

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the civil war to Dec. 1, 1919, .

	\$17,872,859 82
Gratuities (Acts of 1912, chapter 702, Acts of 1913, chapters 105 and 443), ...	571,500 00
Gratuities (General Acts of 1919, chapters 283 and 342), ...	17,978,042 05
	36,422,401 87
	\$82,969,854 56

Returned to State treasury July 22, 1918, in the burial case of Bela D. Preston, . .

	\$30 76
Returned to State treasury March 17, 1920, State aid paid to Albina J. Pierce on misrepresentation, ...	1,000 00
	1,030 76

Total to Dec. 1, 1920, ... \$82,968,823 80.

OFFICE PERSONNEL.

In addition to caring for the civil and Spanish war soldiers and their dependents, this Department, since the demobilization of the men in the world war service, with the consequent dropping of a large number of dependents from the State aid rolls, has had the serious and difficult problems of the ex-service men who seek our advice and help, and the office force have given the best that is in them in their endeavor to assist these soldiers. The work requires tact and consideration; and judging by the expressions of thanks from our discharged soldiers and sailors, the interest shown in their individual cases is appreciated.

Our outside agents are also doing good work in their home investigations, and their reports show excellent results in protecting the Commonwealth from those who would abuse the law with intent or through ignorance thereof. I find that approximately 8,000 examinations have been made at the homes of recipients or those seeking aid, and approximately 1,000 office examinations.

Before any allowance of military aid is granted, there must be proof that the soldier or sailor is so disabled as to be unable to follow his usual occupation. This Department is extremely fortunate in having Col. Frank P. Williams, the Surgeon-General of the Commonwealth, to pass on the applicant's physical condition. Colonel Williams' experience as an overseas medical officer has given him an understanding of the physical problems of the soldier that is proving of great benefit to the State in helping us reach a determination as to the amount of aid that should be paid in cases of disability.

In order to assist city and town officials to a better understanding of the various laws pertaining to State and military aid, burials, soldiers' relief, legal settlements, etc., I deem it advisable to publish chapters 115 and 116 of the General Laws.

CHAPTER 115.

STATE AND MILITARY AID, SOLDIERS' RELIEF, ETC.

SECT.

1. Definition.
2. Commissioner, powers and duties.
3. Cities and towns may pay state and military aid.
4. Applications for aid.
5. Commissioner to determine controversies, etc.
6. Payment of state aid.
7. Restrictions as to wife or widow.
8. Classification of certain beneficiaries.
9. Limit of amounts payable.
10. Military aid.
11. Aid under third and fourth classes to be ordered by commissioner.
12. Conditions of receiving military aid. Notice in certain cases.
13. Receipt of aid limited.

SECT.

14. To whom state and military aid may be paid, etc.
15. City and town officers to make returns to commissioner, etc.
16. Investigating agents, appointment, etc. Investigations by municipal authorities.
17. Soldiers' relief.
18. How furnished.
19. Burial agents in cities and towns, designation, powers and duties.
20. Expense of burial limited, etc.
21. Certain provisions not to apply.
22. Care of graves of soldiers and sailors.
23. Bounty money of minors.
24. Recording of discharge or release papers of soldiers, etc.

SECTION 1. The following words, as used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, shall have the following meanings:

“Commissioner”, commissioner of state aid and pensions.

“Pensioner”, “soldier” and “sailor” shall include private, non-commissioned and commissioned officer.

“Sailor” shall include marine.

SECTION 2. The commissioner shall perform the duties required of him under this chapter relative to state and military aid. He shall investigate, so far as the interests of the commonwealth require, all payments for state and military aid under this chapter; shall furnish information, prepare papers and expedite the adjudication of claims, assist claimants in proving their cases, keep a record of the work done in his office and make an annual report.

R. L. 79, §§ 1, 23.
1902, 192, §§ 1, 2.
1904, 381, § 1.

1909, 468, § 1.
1914, 587, § 1.

1918, 164, § 1.
1919, 190, § 1; 290, § 1.

Definition.
1919, 290, § 16.

Commissioner,
powers and
duties.
1877, 192, § 7.
1879, 252, § 6.
P. S. 30, § 1.
1885, 214.
1888, 396, § 3.
1889, 279, § 9.
1892, 291.
1894, 279, § 9.
1899, 372, § 9;
374, § 6.

SECTION 3. A town may raise money, and, under the direction of the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, subject to the order of the city council, as to the amounts to be paid to beneficiaries, but under the direction of the soldiers' relief commissioner, may pay state or military aid to, or expend it for, any worthy person, subject to the conditions specified in this chapter. Whenever money is expended for any person within the provisions hereof, no officer of any town shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, direct, or in any way interfere with the recipient of such aid in the matter of the person, partnership or corporation to whom or to which, or

Cities and
towns may pay
state and mili-
tary aid.
1861, 222, § 1.
1862, 66,
§§ 1-3;
151, §§ 1-3;
143, §§ 1, 2.
1865, 232,
§§ 1, 2.
1866, 172, §§ 1,
2, 11, 12.

1867, 136, § 6.
1868, 107.
1870, 339, § 1.
1872, 324.
1874, 330.

the place at which the recipient shall give his custom; and whoever violates this provision shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars.

1877, 192, §§ 1, 6, 10.	1897, 441.	1914, 587, § 2.
1878, 282, § 1.	1899, 372, §§ 1, 13; 374, §§ 1, 10.	1916, 314, § 1.
1879, 252, § 1; 301, § 1.	R. L. 79, § 2.	1917, 5, § 1; 179, § 1.
P. S. 30, § 2.	1904, 381, § 2.	1918, 108, § 1.
1889, 279, § 1; 301, § 1.	1909, 468, § 2.	1919, 139; 290, § 2.
1894, 279, § 1; 301, § 1.	1910, 467.	

STATE AID.

Applications for aid.

1866, 172, § 9.
1877, 192, § 2, 10.
1879, 301, § 6.
P. S. 30, § 7.
1889, 301, § 6.
1894, 301, § 6.
1898, 561, § 5, 6.
1899, 374, § 5.
R. L. 79, § 7.
1904, 381, § 7.
1909, 468, § 7.
1914, 587, § 7.
1916, 314, § 3.
1917, 179, § 3, 5.
1918, 108, § 4, 6.
1919, 290, § 7.

Commissioner to determine controversies, etc.

1866, 172, § 5.
1867, 136, § 4, 7.
1877, 192, § 9.
1879, 301, § 7.
P. S. 30, §§ 8, 18.
1889, 301, § 7.
1894, 301, § 7.
1898, 561, § 6.

SECTION 4. Applicants for state aid shall, before any payment thereof to them, state in writing on oath the name, age and residence of the person for whom such aid is sought, his relation to the person who rendered the service entitling the applicant to aid, the company, regiment, station, organization or vessel in or to which the soldier or sailor enlisted or was appointed and in which he last served; the date and place of such enlistment, if known; the duration of such service and the reason upon which the claim for aid is founded; and shall furnish such official certificates of record, evidence of enlistment, service and discharge as may be required. The original papers in each case shall be filed with the commissioner, who shall from time to time provide each town with blank forms for the use of applicants.

SECTION 5. The commissioner shall determine all controversies between invalid pensioners and town authorities relative to claims for state aid. He may refuse to decide on the necessity of a claimant for aid, but if he shall determine that a claimant is entitled thereto he may authorize its payment to him monthly for not more than one year, under such limitations as he may impose. An appeal may be taken from his determination to the governor and council, whose decision shall be final.

1899, 374, § 6.	1909, 468, § 8.	1918, 108, § 5.
R. L. 79, § 8.	1914, 587, § 8.	1919, 290, § 8.
1902, 192, §§ 3, 5.	1916, 314, § 4.	1 Op. A. G. 49.
1904, 381, § 8.	1917, 179, § 4.	

Payment of state aid, etc.

1861, 222, § 1.
1862, 66, §§ 1-3, 6; 151, § 1-3; 166, § 1-3.
1863, 79, §§ 1, 2, 4; 176.
1864, 47, §§ 1-3; 143, § 1, 2.
1865, 232, §§ 1, 2; 251, § 1.
1866, 172, §§ 1, 2, 10; 283, § 5.
1867, 136, §§ 1, 2, 8.

SECTION 6. The recipient of state aid shall have a residence, and shall actually reside, in the town from which such aid is received, shall not receive aid from any other town in the commonwealth or from any other state, shall be in such needy circumstances as to require public assistance, and, if a soldier, sailor or nurse, shall have been honorably discharged from all appointments and enlistments in the army or navy, shall be so far disabled, as the result of his service in the army or navy, as to prevent him from following his usual occupation, and shall belong to one of the following classes:

1871, 299.	1894, 301, § 1.	1909, 468, § 3.
1876, 219.	1895, 361, §§ 1, 3.	1910, 470, § 1.
1877, 192, § 1.	1897, 441.	1914, 349, § 1; 587, § 3.
1879, 252, § 2; 301, § 1.	1898, 561, §§ 3, 4, 11.	1916, 314, § 2.
P. S. 30, § 2.	1899, 372, §§ 1, 2, 13; 374, §§ 1, 2, 10.	1917, 5, § 2; 161; 179, § 2.
1885, 173.	R. L. 79, § 3.	1918, 108, § 2.
1886, 39.	1902, 251, § 1.	1919, 151; 290, § 3.
1889, 301, § 1.	1903, 387.	1 Op. A. G. 575.
1892, 84, Res.	1904, 381, § 3.	

First Class, Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth in the civil war, between April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and September first, eighteen hundred and sixty-five; or who served in such army or navy in the military organizations of this commonwealth known as three months' men, ninety days' men or one hundred days' men mustered into the service of the United States in April, May, June or July, eighteen hundred and sixty-one or in April, May, July or August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, or who, having their residence and actually residing in this commonwealth at the time of their enlistment, either served to the credit of some other state in such army or navy, between April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one and March eighteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or served in such army or navy, having been mustered into the service of the United States at some time between May first and October first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while having a residence and actually living in this commonwealth and while a member of one of the organizations of the volunteer militia, known as the Boston Cadets, the Salem Cadets, the Eighth Battery of Light Artillery, or Company B of the Seventh Regiment of Infantry; or who served in said navy, being one of the persons included in the list of officers, sailors and marines prepared by the adjutant general in accordance with chapter fifteen of the resolves of eighteen hundred and seventy-five and chapter eight of the resolves of eighteen hundred and eighty, having been appointed or mustered into and having served in the naval service of the United States while an actual resident of this commonwealth; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during the civil war, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army or navy, while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein;

First class
qualifications.

Civil war
service.

Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth in the war with Spain, which for the purposes of this chapter is defined as having begun on February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and as having ended on August twelfth in said year; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during said war, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein;

Spanish war
service.

Soldiers mustered into the military service of the United States as part of the quota of this commonwealth called for service on the Mexican border in nineteen hundred and sixteen, and who are in receipt of pension or compensation from the United States for disability or illness incurred in such service, which for the purpose of this chapter shall be deemed to have begun on June nineteenth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and as having ended on February

Mexican
border service.
1916, § 14, § 7.
4 Op. A. G. 4615.

third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, having been mustered into such service while an inhabitant of a town in this commonwealth and actually residing therein;

World war
service.

Any soldier, sailor or nurse who served in the army or navy of the United States in the world war, which for the purposes of this chapter shall be defined as having begun on February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and as having ended on November eleventh, nineteen hundred and eighteen; provided, that such soldier, sailor or nurse receives a pension or compensation from the United States for disability incurred in such service, and was mustered into such service while an inhabitant of a town in the commonwealth and actually residing therein; and provided further, that such soldier, sailor or nurse was honorably discharged from such service by reason of illness or disability incurred therein.

Second class
qualifications.

Second Class, Dependent relatives of invalid pensioners and of soldiers or sailors who served in the manner and under the limitations described for such service under class one who did not die in the service above defined and who were honorably discharged therefrom, as follows:

Civil war
service.
1 Op. A. G. 49.

The wives and widowed mothers of invalid pensioners who served in the civil war, and the widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors dying in such service or after honorable discharge therefrom;

Spanish war
service.

The widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom, or dying while in receipt of a pension from the United States or of state aid from the commonwealth, and the wife and widowed mother of any invalid pensioner of the Spanish war service;

Mexican
border service.

The widow and children under sixteen years of any person who incurred disability during service on the Mexican border as defined in class one and has died from such disability, either while in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom; provided, that only such children whose birth occurred prior to said discharge or to January first, nineteen hundred and eighteen may receive such state aid;

World war
service.

The dependent widow, dependent widowed mother and dependent children up to the age of sixteen of any soldier, sailor or nurse who died while in such service during the world war as defined in class one, or who shall die after an honorable discharge from such service from injuries received or disabilities or illness incurred therein, or any child dependent by reason of physical or mental incapacity, provided the children were in being prior to his discharge or prior to the termination of said war as herein defined, or any person who stood to him in the relationship of a parent for five years prior to such service.

There shall also be included in this class the crippled or otherwise helpless children, whether minors or adults, of soldiers or

sailors who served in either the civil war or the war with Spain; provided, that such children are in receipt of a pension from the United States.

Third Class, Dependent wives, and children up to sixteen years, widows and widowed mothers of soldiers, sailors and nurses, entitled to state aid as defined in class one of this section, who appear on the rolls of their regiments or companies in the office of the adjutant general to be missing or to have been captured by the enemy, and who were not exchanged and have not returned from captivity, and whom the town officers granting such aid have good reason to believe to be dead. Third class qualifications.

Fourth Class, Fathers or mothers, the fathers being alive, of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners, and who died in such service, if such parents were receiving aid May eighteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine. Fourth class qualifications.

Fathers or mothers, the fathers being alive, of soldiers or sailors who served in the world war, in the same manner and under the same limitations described herein for the service of said soldiers or sailors, and who died in such service, if such parents had been in receipt of state war allowance under chapter one hundred and eight of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and eighteen between February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen and November eleventh, nineteen hundred and eighteen. No aid shall be granted to persons in this class unless in each case the aldermen, selectmen, or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, are satisfied, on evidence first reported to the commissioner and satisfactory to him, that justice and necessity require a continuance of the aid to prevent actual suffering.

Fifth Class, Women who served not less than three months as nurses in the army hospitals of the United States between April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one and September first, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or who served not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals of the United States between February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and April twelfth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, or who served in the world war for not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals between February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and November eleventh, nineteen hundred and eighteen, and who for three consecutive years next prior to the date of application for aid, shall have been actually resident in the commonwealth, and who shall not be in receipt of an annuity from the commonwealth, if the municipal authorities are satisfied, on evidence first reported to and found satisfactory by the commissioner, that the service was actually rendered and that justice and necessity require the granting of aid. The amount of such aid and its duration shall be determined by the commissioner. Fifth class qualifications.

Restrictions
as to wife or
widow.

1866, 172, § 3.
1879, 301, § 2.
P. S. 30, § 3.
1885, 204.
1887, 122.
1889, 301, § 2.
1894, 301, § 2.
1899, 374, § 2.
R. L. 79, § 4.
1904, 381, § 4.
1908, 405, § 1.
1909, 468, § 4.
1912, 589, § 1.
1914, 587, § 4.
1919, 290, § 4.

Classification
of certain
beneficiaries.

1879, 301, § 3.
P. S. 30,
§§ 4, 9.
1889, 301, § 3.
1894, 301, § 3.
1899, 374, § 3.
R. L. 79, § 5.
1904, 381, § 5.
1909, 468, § 5.
1914, 587, § 5.
1919, 290, § 5.

Limit of
amounts
payable.

1879, 301, § 4.
P. S. 30, § 5.
1889, 301, § 4.
1894, 301, § 4.
1895, 361, § 2.
1898, 561,
§§ 3, 4.
1899, 374, § 2.
R. L. 79, § 6.
1904, 381, § 6.
1909, 468, § 6.
1914, 375, § 1;
587, § 6.
1919, 290, § 6.

No aid to be
paid in certain
cases.

SECTION 7. The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and five, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service; and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to July first, nineteen hundred and nineteen.

SECTION 8. Of the persons to or for whom state aid is paid under any special act or resolve, designating them by name, and passed after June first, eighteen hundred and seventy-nine, or to or for whom state aid was then being paid under any special act or resolve then repealed, all soldiers and sailors shall be held to belong to the first class, and all dependent relatives of soldiers and sailors to the second class, of section six, notwithstanding the limitations of the said classes; and state aid may be paid to or for such persons in the same manner and with the same limitations as paid to or for other persons of their respective classes; but no aid shall be paid to or for any person under this section contrary to any limitation or condition of the original special act or resolve authorizing state aid to be paid to or for him.

SECTION 9. No state aid shall be paid to or for a person of the first class as defined in section six exceeding in any one month three fourths of the monthly amount of his United States pension or compensation, nor exceeding six dollars in any one month; or to or for a person of the second, third, fourth or fifth class as defined in said section exceeding six dollars in any one month; and no more than twelve dollars shall be paid to or for all dependent relatives of any one soldier or sailor in any one month. State aid shall not be paid to or for any soldier or sailor on account of service in the war with Spain, or to his dependent relatives, unless he enlisted or was appointed in the service of the United States after February fourteenth and prior to August twelfth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight; but it may be allowed to or for volunteers mustered into the service of the United States in Massachusetts regiments after said August twelfth but prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, who shall otherwise be qualified to receive the same, and to or for their dependent relatives.

MILITARY AID.

SECTION 10. The recipient of military aid shall belong to and have the qualifications of one of the four following classes:

Military aid,
etc.
1879, 252, § 3.

1881, 26, § 1.	1898, 561, § 4.	1917, 5, § 1; 179, § 2.
P. S. 30, § 10.	1899, 372, §§ 1-4, 6.	1918, 108, § 2.
1885, 173.	R. L. 79, § 9.	1919, 151, § 2; 290, § 9.
1886, 39.	1904, 381, § 9.	138 Mass. 256.
1889, 279, §§ 1, 2, 4, 5.	1909, 468, § 9.	160 Mass. 503.
1892, Res. 84.	1914, 587, § 9.	1 Op. A. G. 27.
1894, 279, §§ 1, 2, 4, 6.	1916, 314, § 1.	

First Class, Each person of the first class shall have his settlement in the town aiding him; shall have served as a soldier, sailor or nurse in the manner and under the limitations prescribed in the first class of section six; shall have been honorably discharged or released from active duty in such United States service and from all appointments and enlistments therein; shall be poor and indigent and, by reason of sickness or other physical disability, in such need as would entitle him to relief under the pauper laws; shall not be, directly or indirectly, in receipt of any other state or military aid, or of any pension for services rendered or disabilities incurred either in the civil or Spanish wars, Mexican border service or world war service as defined in section six. The disability must have arisen from causes independent of his military or naval service aforesaid.

First class
qualifications.

Second Class, Each person of the second class shall have his settlement in the town aiding him, and shall be an invalid pensioner, entitled to receive state aid, whose income from pension or government compensation and state aid is inadequate for his relief, and who would otherwise receive relief under the pauper laws.

Second class
qualifications.

Third Class, Each person of the third class shall have all the qualifications of persons of the first class except settlement, and shall have been a continuous resident of the commonwealth during the three years last preceding his receipt of military aid and shall be a resident of the town granting the aid.

Third class
qualifications.

Fourth Class, Each person of the fourth class shall have all the qualifications of persons of the second class except settlement, and shall have been a continuous resident of the commonwealth during the three years last preceding his receipt of military aid, and shall be a resident of the town granting aid.

Fourth class
qualifications.

SECTION 11. A town shall not render military aid to a person of the third or fourth class until it has furnished to the commissioner such evidence as may be required that the applicant is entitled to receive aid and has received from said commissioner an order fixing the maximum amount to be paid a month and the period during which aid may be allowed, and stating such other conditions as the commissioner may impose relative thereto. Said order may be revoked or modified by the commissioner by giving written notice to the town procuring it.

Aid under
third and
fourth classes
to be ordered
by commis-
sioner.
1889, 279, § 6.
1894, 279, § 6.
1899, 372, § 6.
R. L. 79, § 10.
1904, 381, § 10.
1909, 468, § 10.
1914, 587, § 10.
1919, 290, § 10.

Conditions of receiving military aid. Notice in certain cases.

1878, 282, § 1.
1879, 252, § 5.
P. S. 30, § 12.
1889, 279, § 7.
1894, 279, § 7.
1899, 372, § 7.
§§ 7, 8, 13.
R. L. 79, § 11.
1904, 381, § 11.
1909, 468, § 11.
1914, 587, § 11.
1919, 171, § 2;
290, § 11.

Receipt of aid limited.
1889, 279, § 7;
301, § 2.

To whom state and military aid may be paid, etc.

1864, 47, § 4.
1865, 232, § 5.
1866, 172, § 4.
1867, 136, § 6.
1877, 192, § 3.
§§ 3, 4, 10.
1879, 252, § 4;
301, § 5.
P. S. 30, § 6.
§§ 6, 13.
1889, 279, § 8;
301, § 5.
1894, 279, § 7.
§§ 7, 8;
301, § 5.
1898, 561, § 4.
1899, 372, § 2.
§§ 7, 8; 374, § 2.
R. L. 79, § 13.
1904, 381, § 13.
1909, 468, § 13.
1914, 587, § 13.
1919, 290, § 13.

Not to be attached or assigned.

SECTION 12. No person shall be compelled to receive military aid without his consent, nor shall any person be compelled to receive military aid in an almshouse or other public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires it, and, except in such case, it shall be paid to or expended for those persons only who live separate from persons receiving support as paupers. The aldermen, selectmen, soldiers' relief commissioner or the commissioner of state aid and pensions may require a person to whom military aid is granted to pay over his United States pension or compensation to them to be expended for his relief before receiving such aid. In all cases where an applicant for military aid has a settlement outside the town where application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner.

SECTION 13. No person shall at the same time receive both state and military aid.

1894, 279, §§ 3, 7; 301, § 2.	R. L. 79, § 12.	1914, 587, § 12.
1898, 561, § 3.	1904, 381, § 12.	1919, 290, § 12.
1899, 372, § 7; 374, § 2.	1909, 468, § 12.	

SECTION 14. State and military aid shall be paid to or applied solely for the benefit of the person for whom intended, and only so much shall be paid to or for him as is necessary to afford him reasonable relief or support. Such aid shall not be paid to or for any person able to support himself, or who is in receipt of income or owns property sufficient for his support, nor to an amount in excess of such amount as is necessary, in addition to his income and property, for his personal relief or support, nor to or for any soldier, sailor, pensioner, dependent relative or nurse if the necessity therefor is caused by the voluntary idleness or continuous vicious or intemperate habits of the soldier, sailor, nurse or pensioner on whose account such aid is sought, nor to or for any person who has been dishonorably discharged from any national soldiers' or sailors' home or from the soldiers' home in this commonwealth, unless the commissioner, after a hearing, shall otherwise determine, nor shall such aid be paid to any person who at the time of entering the federal service was a subject or citizen of a neutral country, had filed his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and afterward withdrew such intention under the act of congress approved on July ninth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, nor to any person designated upon his discharge as a conscientious objector. State aid shall not be subject to trustee process, and no assignment thereof shall be valid. No back state aid shall be paid, nor shall state aid be paid to or for any person convicted of crime unless the municipal authorities and the commissioner otherwise determine, nor shall state or military aid be paid if the pensioner, soldier, sailor or nurse deserted from the service of the United States either in the war of the rebellion, the war with Spain, the

Mexican border or the world war service, as defined in this chapter, or is wilfully absent from his family and neglects to render them such assistance as he is able to give.

SECTION 15. The full amount expended for state or military aid by any town, the names of the persons aided and the classes to which they severally belong, the amounts paid to or for each person, the reasons therefor, the names of the persons on account of whose services the aid was granted, the names, if any, of the companies, regiments, stations, organizations or vessels in which they respectively enlisted, or to which they were appointed, and in which they last served, and the relationship of each person aided, to the soldier or sailor on account of whose service the aid was granted, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall, within the first ten days of the month following the month in which the expenditure was made, be certified, on oath, by the mayor, treasurer and city clerk of any city or a majority of the selectmen of any town disbursing the same, to said commissioner on blank forms provided by him, and in a manner approved by him. The commissioner shall examine the certificates thereof and allow and endorse thereon such amounts as he finds have been paid and reported according to this chapter, and shall transmit the certificates to the state auditor. The commissioner may decide upon the necessity of the amount paid in each case, and may allow any part thereof which he deems proper and lawful and which, in cases of payment to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to receive military aid, he shall also find to have been made according to his orders; but he shall allow and endorse the amounts which he has specifically authorized to be paid under and according to his decisions made under section five. The whole of the amounts legally paid as aforesaid and so allowed for state aid, and all payments to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to military aid, and one half of all payments made to persons of the first or second class entitled to military aid, but none of the expenses attending the payment of state or military aid, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after such expenditure.

SECTION 16. The commissioner may, with the consent of the governor, appoint, as occasion may require, one or more disinterested persons who shall investigate any claims against the commonwealth for state or military aid, may examine any persons to or for whom such aid has been paid, investigate the reasons therefor and all matters relating to the granting of such aid, and shall report their doings to the commissioner. The reasonable expenses of the commissioner, and the expenses and compensation of any such disinterested person approved by the commissioner, and allowed by the governor and council, shall be paid by the commonwealth. Municipal authorities charged with the disbursing

City and town officers to make returns to commissioner, etc.

1861, 222, § 5-7.
1862, 66, § 4-6; 151, § 3; 166, § 4.
1863, 79, § 3.
1864, 47, § 5.
1865, 232, § 3, 4.
1866, 172, § 6.
1867, 136, § 3.
1876, 219, § 8, 10.
1877, 192, § 8, 10.
1878, 282, § 1.
1879, 252, § 7;
301, § 8.
1881, 26, § 2.
P. S. 30, § 14-17.
1889, 279, § 10;
301, § 8.
1894, 279, § 10;
301, § 8.
1898, 561, § 7.
1899, 372, § 10;
374, § 7.
R. L. 79, § 14.
1904, 381, § 14.
1909, 468, § 14.
1914, 587, § 14.
1916, 314, § 5.
1917, 179, § 6.
1918, 108, § 7.
1919, 151, § 2;
290, § 14.
1 Op. A. G. 49.

Commissioner to examine certificates, etc.

Allowances by commissioner, etc.

Cities and towns to be reimbursed.

Investigating agents, appointment, etc.

Investigations by municipal authorities.

1866, 282, § 1.
1867, 136, § 5.
1877, 192, § 8, 10.
1879, 252, § 7;
301, § 6, 7.
P. S. 30, § 7, 18.
1886, 110.
1889, 279, § 8, 10; 301, § 6, 7.

1894, 279,
 §§ 8, 10; 301,
 §§ 6, 7.
 1898, 561, § 4.
 1899, 372, § 9;
 374, § 6.
 R. L. 79,
 §§ 15, 17.

of state or military aid shall from time to time, after its original allowance, make such investigations of the necessities and qualifications of the person aided as to prevent any payment thereof contrary to any provision of this chapter.

1904, 381, § 15.
 1909, 468, § 15.

1914, 587, § 15.

1919, 290, § 15.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Soldiers' relief.
 1888, 438, § 1.
 1889, 298.
 1890, 447.
 1893, 279.
 1897, 441.
 R. L. 79, § 18.
 1902, 250.
 1913, 323.
 1916, 116.
 1917, 58.
 1919, 151, § 3;
 171, § 1.
 2 Op. A. G.
 408, 417.
 4 Op. A. G. 613.

SECTION 17. If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes from any cause, except his own criminal or wilful misconduct, poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under sixteen years, or for a dependent father or mother, or if such person dies leaving a widow or such minor children or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an almshouse or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect.

If an applicant for military aid or soldiers' relief has a settlement outside of the town where the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner.

This section shall also apply to army nurses who served in the army hospitals of the United States during the civil war and are entitled to state aid under section six and to army nurses and their dependents as specified herein who served in the army, navy or marine corps during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and

ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or during the world war.

SECTION 18. The aldermen or selectmen shall furnish such relief without authority of a vote of the city council or of the town. Such relief shall be furnished only by, through or under the agency or direction of city or town officers authorized to disburse state or military aid. If the aldermen or selectmen fail to furnish it any person aggrieved may apply to the commissioner, who shall forthwith make a thorough investigation of the qualifications and circumstances of the applicant and shall determine the amount of relief, if any, to be given. The decision of the commissioner shall be final, but may at any time be amended or reversed by him.

How furnished.
1893, 237.
1898, 356.
1900, 189.
R. L. 79, § 19.

BURIAL OF INDIGENT SOLDIERS, ETC.

SECTION 19. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor dies in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to January first, nineteen hundred and ten; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from such service. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of the death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

Burial agents in cities and towns, designation, powers and duties.
1889, 395, § 1.
1896, 279, § 1.
1897, 164; 441.
1900, 162.
1901, 283.
R. L. 79, § 20.
1902, 292, § 1.
1904, 381, § 17.
1907, 354, § 1.
1909, 468, § 17.
1914, 311, § 1;
587, § 17.
1916, 191.
1918, 183.
1919, 151, § 2;
290, § 17.
1 Op. A. G. 408.

Expense of
burial limited,
etc.

1889, 395,
§§ 2, 3.
1892, 184.
1894, 62.
1896, 279, 2.
R. L. 79, 21.
1904, 381, 18.
1907, 354, 2.
1909, 468, 18.
1913, 475, 1.
1914, 587, 18.
1917, 160.
1919, 129; 151,
§ 2; 290, § 18.

Relations
may conduct
funeral.

Statements
to be made to
commissioner
of state aid,
etc.

Cities and
towns to be
reimbursed.

Certain pro-
visions not to
apply.
1919, 151, § 4.

Care of
graves of
soldiers and
sailors.
1914, 122, § 1.
1920, 218.

SECTION 20. The expense of a burial as aforesaid shall not exceed sixty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent causing the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed one hundred and thirty-five dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part of any cemetery or burial ground so used. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier, or sailor, the regiment, company, station, organization or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall be certified on oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the town expending the amount, within three months after the burial; and the commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as he finds have been paid, and reported according to the foregoing provisions, and shall transmit the certificate to the state auditor. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after the expenditures have been made.

SECTION 21. The provisions of the two preceding sections relative to burial of indigent soldiers or sailors and their dependents and of section seventeen relative to soldiers' relief shall not apply to any person who at the time of entering the federal service during the world war was a subject or citizen of a neutral country who had filed his intention to become a citizen of the United States and who afterward withdrew such intention under the act of congress approved July ninth, nineteen hundred and eighteen, nor to any person designated upon his discharge as a conscientious objector.

CARE OF GRAVES OF SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

SECTION 22. In every town there shall annually be appointed by the mayor or selectmen a citizen of the town, preferably a person who has served in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States in time of war or insurrection and has been honorably discharged from such service or released from active duty therein, who shall see that every cemetery lot where there is a grave of any person who has so served is suitably kept and cared for. If the cost of such care and maintenance is not paid by private persons, or by the trustees of the cemeteries where any such grave is situated,

it shall be paid by the town; and towns may appropriate money therefor. Money so appropriated may be expended directly by the town or paid over to the trustees or manager of any cemetery where any such grave is situated; but the sum so paid over in any year shall not exceed for each grave the sum charged for the annual care and maintenance of like lots in the same cemetery, or, if no such charge is made in that cemetery, it shall not exceed the sum charged in other cemeteries in the same town for like service.

BOUNTY MONEY OF MINORS.

SECTION 23. The bounty and pay of a minor enlisted in the military or naval service of the United States shall not be subject to legal process on account of debts due from his parent, and the transfer of such bounty or pay by the parent to such minor shall not be deemed fraudulent as to creditors.

Bounty money
of minors.
1865, 235.
P. S. 149, § 23.
R. L. 79, § 24.
97 Mass. 169.

RECORDING OF DISCHARGE PAPERS.

SECTION 24. The discharge or release papers of soldiers and sailors who served in the armed forces of the United States in time of war or insurrection and have been honorably discharged therefrom or released from active duty therein, may be recorded with the clerk of the town of the holder's residence in books kept for the purpose, upon payment of a fee of twenty-five cents for each discharge or release so recorded. The clerk shall prepare and keep an index of the papers so recorded, and copies of such papers, if attested by him, shall be admitted as sufficient evidence thereof whenever they are otherwise competent.

Recording of
discharge or
release papers
of soldiers, etc.
1920, 467.

CHAPTER 116.

SETTLEMENT LAW.

SECT.

1. Acquisition of legal settlements.
2. Not acquired while receiving relief as a pauper.
3. Person receiving certain aid not to acquire settlement.
4. Certain persons not to be deemed paupers.

SECT.

5. Existing settlements to continue in force until, etc.
6. Provision for persons who have begun to acquire settlements.
7. Certain settlements defeated.

Acquirement
of legal settle-
ments.

SECTION 1. Legal settlements may be acquired in any town in the following manner and not otherwise:

C. L. 123, § 2.
1692-3, 28, § 9.
1700-1, 23, § 5.
1766-7, 17, § 6.

1789, 14.
1793, 34, § 2.
R. S. 45, § 1.
G. S. 69, § 1.

1878, 190, § 1.
P. S. 83, § 1.
R. L. 80, § 1.
1911, 669, §§ 1, 7.

By residence.
1789, 14, § 1.
1821, 84, § 2.
1868, 328, § 1.
1870, 392, § 1.
1871, 379, § 1.
1874, 274,
§§ 1-3.

First, Except as provided in the following clause, each person who, after reaching the age of twenty-one has resided in any town within the commonwealth for five consecutive years, shall thereby acquire a settlement in such town.

1879, 242, § 2.
1898, 425, § 1.
R. L. 80, § 1, cl. 4-6.
1911, 669, § 1, cl. 1, § 7.
1914, 323.
4 Mass. 384.
5 Mass. 430.
10 Mass. 394.
12 Mass. 262.
13 Mass. 462, 501.
15 Mass. 237, 253.
16 Mass. 236.
1 Pick. 129, 153, 154.
3 Pick. 172.
7 Pick. 42.
8 Pick. 379.
12 Pick. 1.
19 Pick. 480.
21 Pick. 233.
22 Pick. 385.
3 Met. 165, 428.

5 Met. 350.
10 Met. 115.
12 Met. 35.
13 Met. 192.
4 Cush. 172, 190, 553, 557.
8 Cush. 525, 528.
1 Gray, 619.
13 Gray, 586.
15 Gray, 19, 349, 496.
4 Allen, 574.
5 Allen, 137.
6 Allen, 431, 477, 508.
8 Allen, 508, 551.
9 Allen, 137.
99 Mass. 587.
105 Mass. 293.
107 Mass. 598.
110 Mass. 113.
120 Mass. 574.
125 Mass. 521.

126 Mass. 475.
127 Mass. 540.
130 Mass. 357, 370.
131 Mass. 18, 454.
132 Mass. 495, 519.
133 Mass. 242.
136 Mass. 424.
137 Mass. 152.
138 Mass. 305.
140 Mass. 224, 243, 325.
144 Mass. 25.
153 Mass. 192.
155 Mass. 359.
159 Mass. 491.
165 Mass. 251.
225 Mass. 589.
1 Op. A. G. 519.
2 Op. A. G. 3, 15, 17, 24, 80, 158.
180, 291, 319.
3 Op. A. G. 114.

Married
women.
1789, 14, § 3.
1878, 190, § 1,
cl. 1.
R. L. 80, § 1,
cl. 1.
1911, 669,
§ 1, cl. 2, § 7.

Second, A married woman shall follow and have the settlement of her husband; but if he has no settlement within the commonwealth, she shall retain the settlement, if any, which she had at the time of her marriage and may acquire a settlement under the preceding clause.

9 Mass. 201.
12 Mass. 363.
13 Allen, 88.

131 Mass. 454.
149 Mass. 223.

196 Mass. 393.
229 Mass. 83.

Legitimate
children.
1789, 14, § 3.
R. L. 80, § 1,
cl. 2.
1911, 669,
§ 1, cl. 3, § 7.
13 Mass. 469.
15 Mass. 237,
239.
16 Mass. 134.
1 Pick. 197.
3 Pick. 172.

Third, Legitimate children shall follow and have the settlement of their father if he has one within the commonwealth, otherwise they shall follow and have the settlement of their mother if she has one; if the father dies during the minority of his children they shall thereafter follow and have the settlement of the mother. Upon the divorce of the parents the minor children shall follow and have the settlement of the parent to whom the court awards their custody.

18 Pick. 264.
8 Cush. 528.

6 Allen, 31.

114 Mass. 554.

Fourth, Illegitimate children shall follow and have the settlement of their mother.

Illegitimate
children.
1789, 14, § 3.

R. L. 80, § 1, cl. 3.
1911, 669, § 1, cl. 4, § 7.
12 Mass. 429.

13 Mass. 381.
8 Cush. 75.

8 Allen, 551.
Op. A. G. (1917), 116.

Fifth, A person who enlisted and was mustered into the military or naval service of the United States, as a part of the quota of a town in the commonwealth under any call of the president of the United States during the war of the rebellion or any war between the United States and any foreign power, or who was assigned as a part of the quota thereof after having enlisted and been mustered into said service, and his wife or widow and minor children, shall be deemed thereby to have acquired a settlement in such town, provided that he served for not less than one year, or died or became disabled from wounds or disease received or contracted while engaged in such service, or while a prisoner of the enemy; and any person who would otherwise be entitled to a settlement under this clause, but who was not a part of the quota of any town, shall, if he served as a part of the quota of the commonwealth, be deemed to have acquired a settlement, for himself, his wife or widow and minor children, in the place where he actually resided at the time of his enlistment. Any person who was inducted into the military or naval forces of the United States under the federal selective service act, or who enlisted in said forces in time of war between the United States and any foreign power, whether he served as a part of the quota of the commonwealth or not, and his wife or widow and minor children shall, subject to the same proviso, be deemed to have acquired a settlement in the place where he actually resided in this commonwealth at the time of his induction or enlistment. But these provisions shall not apply to any person who enlisted and received a bounty for such enlistment in more than one place unless the second enlistment was made after an honorable discharge from the first term of service, nor to any person who has been proved guilty of wilful desertion, or who left the service otherwise than by reason of disability or an honorable discharge.

How acquired
by soldiers and
sailors.
1865, 230,
§§ 1, 3.
1866, 288.
1868, 328, § 3.
1870, 392,
§§ 3-5.
1871, 379, § 2.
R. L. 80, § 1,
cl. 10.
1911, 669,
§ 1, cl. 5, § 7.
1918, 257,
§ 299.
1919, 5; 333,
§ 5.
1920, 2.
97 Mass. 382.
102 Mass. 358.
104 Mass. 46.
107 Mass. 282.
115 Mass. 336.
130 Mass. 107.
132 Mass. 498,
510, 519.
138 Mass. 256,
292.
139 Mass. 15.
144 Mass. 520.
150 Mass. 106.
2 Op. A. G.
227, 390.

Sixth, Upon the division of a town, every person having a legal settlement therein, but being absent at the time of such division, and not having acquired a legal settlement elsewhere, shall have his legal settlement in the town containing the last dwelling place or home which he had in the town so divided; and if a new town, composed of a part of one or more other towns is incorporated, every person legally settled in the towns of which such new town is so composed, and who actually dwells and has his home within the bounds of such new town at the time of its incorporation, and any person duly qualified as provided in the fifth clause of this section who, at the time of his enlistment dwelt and had his home within such bounds, shall thereby acquire a legal settlement in such new

Settlements in
new towns.
1872, 280.
R. L. 80, § 1,
cl. 11.
1911, 669,
§ 1, cl. 6, § 7.
1 Pick. 144.
24 Pick. 164.
6 Met. 484.
4 Cush. 185.
1 Allen, 75.
125 Mass. 304.

town; but no person residing in that part of a town which upon such division is incorporated into a new town and who then has no legal settlement therein shall acquire any by force of such incorporation only, nor shall such incorporation prevent his acquiring a settlement in such town within the time and by the means by which he would have gained it there if no such division had been made.

Not acquired while receiving relief as a pauper.
1874, 274, § 4.
1879, 242, § 1.
P. S. 83, § 2.
R. L. 80, § 2.
1911, 669,
§§ 2, 7.

SECTION 2. No person shall acquire a settlement, or be in process of acquiring a settlement, while receiving relief as a pauper, unless, within two years after receiving such relief, he tenders reimbursement of the cost thereof to the commonwealth or to the town furnishing it.

13 Met. 192.
13 Gray, 92.

4 Allen, 574.
136 Mass. 424.

144 Mass. 25.
196 Mass. 393.

Person receiving certain aid not to acquire settlement.
1902, 213, § 2.
1907, 386, § 2.
1913, 763,
§§ 1, 4.
1917, 70.
2 Cush. 52.
225 Mass. 589.

SECTION 3. No person while receiving aid under chapter one hundred and eighteen or for whom the commonwealth or a town has incurred expense in consequence of smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, tuberculosis, dog bite requiring anti-rabic treatment or other disease dangerous to the public health, shall be deemed to be a pauper by reason thereof, but while receiving such aid and treatment he shall not acquire or be in process of acquiring a settlement.

Certain persons not to be deemed paupers.
1881, 188.
P. S. 83, § 3.
1898, 433, § 23.
R. L. 80, § 3.
1911, 669,
§§ 3, 7.
1913, 266, § 1.
19 Pick. 480.
15 Gray, 15.
13 Allen, 88.
105 Mass. 293.
138 Mass. 101.
160 Mass. 232,
503.
180 Mass. 38.
225 Mass. 589.

SECTION 4. No person who actually supports himself and his family shall be deemed to be a pauper by reason of the commitment of his wife, child or other relative to a state hospital or institution of charity, reform or correction by order of a court or magistrate, and of his inability to maintain such person therein; or who, to the best of his ability, has attempted to provide for himself and his dependents and has not been a mendicant, and who, through no crime or misdemeanor of his own, has come into grievous need and receives aid or assistance given temporarily, or partial support continuously, to him or his family: provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to affect, directly or indirectly, settlement, poor, or pauper laws, or laws under which any charity, aid or assistance is furnished by public authority.

Existing settlements to continue in force until, etc.
1793, 34, § 2,
cl. 12.
R. S. 45, § 3.
G. S. 69, § 3.
1878, 190, § 3.
P. S. 83, § 5.
R. L. 80, § 5.
1911, 669,
§§ 4, 5, 7.
1914, 323.
1916, 316, § 1.
11 Mass. 441.
13 Met. 192.
6 Cush. 61.
13 Gray, 586.
229 Mass. 83.
Loss of legal settlement.

SECTION 5. Each settlement existing on August twelfth, nineteen hundred and eleven, shall continue in force until changed or defeated under this chapter, but from and after said date absence for five consecutive years by a person from a town where he had a settlement shall defeat such settlement. The time during which a person shall be an inmate of any almshouse, jail, prison, or other public or state institution, within the commonwealth, or in any manner under its care and direction or that of an officer thereof, or of a soldiers' or sailors' home whether within or without the commonwealth, shall not be counted in computing the time either for acquiring or for losing a settlement, except as provided in section two. The settlement, existing on August twelfth, nineteen hundred

and sixteen, of a soldier and his dependent eligible to receive military aid and soldiers' relief under existing laws shall be and continue in force while said soldier or dependent actually resides in the commonwealth and until a new settlement is gained in another town in the manner heretofore prescribed.

SECTION 6. No person who has begun to acquire a settlement by the laws in force at and before the time when this chapter takes effect, in any of the ways in which any period of time is prescribed for a residence, or for the continuance or succession of any other act, shall be prevented or delayed by the provisions hereof; but he shall acquire a settlement by a continuance or succession of the same residence or other act, in the same time and manner as if the former laws had continued in force.

SECTION 7. Any settlement not fully acquired subsequently to May first, eighteen hundred and sixty, is hereby defeated and lost, unless such settlement prevented a subsequent acquisition of settlement in the same place; but if a settlement acquired by marriage is so defeated, the former settlement, if any, of the wife, if not also so defeated, shall be revived.

Certain time not to be reckoned in determining settlements of inmates of institutions.

Provision for persons who have begun to acquire settlements.

R. S. 45, § 2.
G. S. 69, § 2.
1878, 190, § 2.
P. S. 83, § 4.
R. L. 80, § 4.
1911, 669,
§§ 5, 7.

Certain settlements defeated.

1870, 392, § 2.
1871, 379, § 3.
1878, 190, § 4.
P. S. 83, § 6.
1898, 425, § 2.
R. L. 80, § 6.
1911, 669,
§§ 6, 7.

114 Mass. 553.
116 Mass. 570.

131 Mass. 18.
187 Mass. 592.

229 Mass. 83.
3 Op. A. G. 67, 84, 207.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Under chapter 115, sections 17 and 18, General Laws, the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions is also charged with certain duties in regard to the functioning of the Soldiers' Relief Act. Chapter 171, General Acts, 1919, enjoins the city and town official required to act thereon with the responsibility of notifying the corresponding official in the city or town of applicant's legal settlement within three days when it is found that the claim cannot be acted upon in the place of the applicant's residence, and he is also required to notify the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions. We find this law has worked for the benefit of those concerned, and has been without doubt a preventive of the inattention heretofore given such claims by some municipal authorities, which in a great many cases caused hardship.

Soldiers' relief payments are borne entirely by the city or town of legal settlement. Where there is a refusal to assist under this act, or the amount granted is inadequate for the applicant's reasonable support, he or she has the right of appeal to the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, who under the law shall cause an immediate investigation and render a decision as to the amount needed for the maintenance of the applicant.

In view of the broad scope of the Soldiers' Relief Act we have had more than the usual number of appeals from aggrieved applicants, which were decided to the satisfaction of all parties.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending Dec. 31, 1920:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (general law), original, ...	12
Soldiers (general law), increase, ...	14
Soldiers (act of May 11, 1912), ...	4
Soldiers (act of March 4, 1917), Indian wars, ...	6
Soldiers (act of May 1, 1920), civil war, ...	238
Soldiers (act of June 5, 1920), Spanish war, ...	425
Widows (general law), ...	6
Widows (act of Sept. 8, 1916), ...	289
Widows (act of March 4, 1917), Indian wars, ...	2
Widows (act of July 16, 1918), Spanish war, ...	56
Widows (act of Jan. 29, 1887), Mexican war, ...	4
Widows (accrued), ...	10
Mothers, ...	5
Reimbursement, ...	137
New pension certificates, ...	3
Payment unendorsed pension checks, ...	1
Old claims, ...	4
Ten years' service pension, ...	1
Guardians' claims, ...	7
Certificates in lieu of discharge, ...	4
Total, ...	1,228
Number of claims allowed, ...	404
Number of claims rejected, ...	75

Two important pension laws were passed during the year 1920. The act of May 1, 1920, known as the Fuller Bill, increased the rate of pension to certain soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil war and the war with Mexico, to certain widows, including widows of the war of 1812, former widows, dependent parents, and children of said soldiers, sailors and marines, and to certain army nurses.

Following is a list showing who are eligible for a pension under the Act of May 1, 1920, and rate of pension in each case: —

War of 1812.

1. To widow of one who served in war of 1812, ... \$30

. War with Mexico.

2. To one who served 60 days or more, and honorably discharged, ... 50
3. To one who served 60 days or more, was honorably discharged, who is helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to require regular personal aid and attendance, ... 72
4. To widow of one who served 60 days or more, and honorably discharged, ... 30

Civil War.

5. To one who served 90 days or more in the army, navy, or Marine Corps of the United States, and honorably discharged, ... 50
6. To one who served less than 90 days, discharged for disability incurred in service in line of duty, in receipt of or entitled to pension, or on pension roll as a civil war veteran, ... 50
7. To one who served 90 days, honorably discharged, or having served less than 90 days, discharged for disability incurred in service in line of duty, or on the roll as a civil war veteran, who is helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to require regular personal aid and attendance, ... 72
8. To one who in service in line of duty lost —
 - (a) One hand or one foot or totally disabled in same, ... 60
 - (b) An arm at or above elbow, or leg at or above knee, or totally disabled in same, ... 65
 - (c) An arm at shoulder joint, leg at hip joint, or if artificial limb cannot be used, ... 72
 - (d) One hand and one foot, or totally disabled in same, ... 90
9. To widow married prior to June 27, 1905 —
 - (a) Of one who served 90 days or more, and honorably discharged, ... 30
 - (b) Of one discharged for or died in service of a disability incurred in service in line of duty, regardless of length of service, ... 30
 - (c) Married once or more than once after death of soldier or sailor husband if subsequent marriage has been dissolved by death, or divorce without fault on her part, ... 30
10. To widows above mentioned, for each child under 16 years of age of officer or enlisted man, additional, ... 6
11. To child or children under 16 years of age of such officer or enlisted man in case of death or remarriage of widow, the whole pension.
12. To army nurses, civil war, ... 30
13. To dependent parents, civil war, ... 30

The following is a copy of the act of June 5, 1920, known as the Sells' Bill: —

AN ACT TO PENSION SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE WAR WITH SPAIN, THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION, AND THE CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, —

That all persons who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the War with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, and the China relief expedition, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, and who are now or who may hereafter be suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character, not the result of their own vicious habits, which so incapacitates them from the performance of manual labor as to render them unable to earn a support, shall, upon making due proof of the fact, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the list of invalid pensioners of the United States, and be entitled to receive a pension not exceeding \$30 per month and not less than \$12 per month, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support; and in determining such inability each and every infirmity shall be duly considered, and the aggregate of the disabilities shown be rated, and such pension shall commence from the date of the filing of the application, in the Bureau of Pensions, after the passage of this Act, upon proof that the disability or disabilities then existed, and shall continue during the existence of the same: *Provided*, That any such person who has reached the age of 62 years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$12 per month. In case such person has reached the age of 68 years, \$18 per month; in case such person has reached the age of 72 years, \$24 per month; and in case such person has reached the age of 75 years, \$30 per month: *Provided, further*, That persons who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the Bureau of Pensions, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, showing themselves entitled thereto, receive the benefits of this Act; and nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to prevent any pensioner thereunder from prosecuting his claim and receiving his pension under any other general or special Act: *Provided, however*, That no person shall receive more than one pension for the same period: *And provided further*, That rank in the service shall not be considered in applications filed under this Act.

SECTION 2. That no agent, attorney, or other person engaged in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under the provisions of this Act, shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain for such services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting such claim a sum greater than \$20, which sum shall be payable only upon the order of the Commissioner of Pensions under such rules and regulations as he may deem proper to make, and any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, or who shall wrongfully withhold from a pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of a pension or claim allowed or due such pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be

deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding \$500, or be imprisoned at hard labor not exceeding two years, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SECTION 3. That from and after the approval of this Act all persons whose names are on the pension roll, and who, while in the service of the United States in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps and in the line of duty, shall have lost one hand or one foot or been totally disabled in the same, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$60 per month; that all persons who, in such service and in like manner, shall have lost an arm at or above the elbow, or a leg at or above the knee, or been totally disabled in the same, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$65 per month; that all persons who, in such service and in like manner, shall have lost an arm at the shoulder joint or a leg at the hip joint, or so near the shoulder or hip joint, or where the same is in such condition as to prevent the use of an artificial limb, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$72 per month; and that all persons who, in such service and in like manner, shall have lost one hand and one foot, or been totally disabled in the same, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$90 per month; and that all persons who, in such service and in like manner, shall have lost both eyes, or been totally disabled in the same or who, in such service and in like manner, sustained injuries that proved the direct cause of the subsequent total loss of the sight of both eyes, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$100 per month. [*Approved, June 5, 1920.*]

This is the first time since the close of the Spanish-American war that the veterans of that war have not been obliged to prove that their disabilities are of service origin.

There has been no change in the laws governing pension to the widows of Spanish war veterans since the passage of the act of July 16, 1918. Previous to the passage of that act widows of Spanish war veterans were obliged to prove that the soldiers' death was the result of wounds or disease contracted in line of duty. The rate of pension was \$12 per month, and was increased to \$25 by act of Oct. 6, 1917. At the present time, if the widow can prove that the soldier's death was the result of his service, she is eligible for \$25 per month pension. If she cannot furnish such proof she is eligible for a pension at the rate of \$12 per month under the act of July 16, 1918.

This act provides that "if any officer or enlisted man who rendered service therein specified, and was honorably discharged therefrom, has died or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow without means of support other than her daily labor, and an actual net income not exceeding \$250 per year", "such widow shall, without proving his death to be the result of his army or navy service, be placed on the pension roll from date of filing her application."

During the year 1919 a number of Spanish war widows' claims

were rejected for the reason that they were receiving aid in the form of soldiers' relief from the place of their settlement, or State aid, and the amount so received was regarded by the Pension Bureau as income. Many of these widows had small children, and being unable to earn anything towards their support were obliged to ask for this aid, and by receiving it were denied the benefits of the act of July 16, 1918.

Under a decision of the Department of the Interior, dated March 11, 1920, in the case of Fannie Allison, widow of James Allison, fifty rejected claims were reopened by this Department. Fannie Allison was advised by the Pension Bureau Oct. 6, 1919, that her claim had been rejected on the ground that she was in receipt of an actual net income in excess of \$250, "inclusive of the financial assistance given by her daughter, who is able to and does contribute to her support." An appeal from this action was entered Oct. 15, 1919, and after reconsideration by the Bureau it was decided that if the claimant's daughter was her sole means of support, and was able to and did actually provide her a sufficient support, the claimant would, nevertheless, be pensionable under the provisions of the act of July 16, 1918.

In view of this decision we appealed fifty rejected claims. Each case was taken up individually with the Commissioner of Pensions, and the financial condition of the widow fully set forth. It was shown that the aid received by the widow was given to supply the necessities of life, and should not be considered as "income;" also that it would cease to be paid as soon as a pension was granted her, or the need of assistance no longer existed. We did not feel that this aid given to a widow because she was prevented from earning a livelihood, either on account of her poor physical condition or because she had small children to care for, should be regarded as "income," and debar her from receipt of a pension, while a widow who could earn a living was allowed a pension for the reason that her earnings were not included in her net annual income. All these claims have had the careful consideration of the Pension Bureau, and it is a source of gratification to state that up to date the former decision has been reversed in thirty cases, and those widows are now in receipt of a pension.

The thanks of this Department are due Hon. G. M. Saltzgaber, Commissioner of Pensions, whose resignation has been accepted by the Secretary of the Interior, his successor, Hon. F. D. Byington, and all their office staff for their hearty co-operation and courtesies extended in the prosecution of claims filed during the year.

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following is a detailed statement showing the number of civil and Spanish war recipients of State and military aid under the provisions of chapter 290, General Acts of 1919, the number of dependents of soldiers of the Mexican Border service under the provisions of chapter 314, General Acts of 1916, and the number of dependents of soldiers of the German war service under the provisions of chapter 179, General Acts of 1917, as amended by chapter 108, General Acts of 1918, who were drawing aid in the various cities and towns in this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1919:—

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Abington, ...	40	—	40	50
Acton, ...	7	—	7	9
Acushnet, ...	2	—	2	2
Adams, ...	12	—	12	14
Agawam, ...	4	—	4	4
Alford, ...	1	—	1	1
Amesbury, ...	26	2	28	39
Amherst, ...	10	—	10	12
Andover, ...	13	—	13	19
Arlington, ...	27	2	29	62
Ashburnham, ...	7	—	7	7
Ashby, ...	5	—	5	4
Ashfield, ...	6	—	6	7
Ashland, ...	14	—	14	23
Athol, ...	35	—	35	45
ATTLEBORO, ...	30	—	30	40
Auburn, ...	7	—	7	5
Avon, ...	10	—	10	16
Ayer, ...	4	—	4	6
Barnstable, ...	19	—	19	30
Barre, ...	9	—	9	12
Becket, ...	5	—	5	6

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Bedford, ...	3	-	3	3
Belchertown, ...	19	1	20	22
Bellingham, ...	9	-	9	15
Belmont, ...	8	1	9	21
Berkley, ...	2	-	2	3
Berlin, ...	7	-	7	9
Bernardston, ...	-	-	-	-
BEVERLY, ...	108	2	110	174
Billerica, ...	4	-	4	17
Blackstone, ...	6	-	6	8
Blandford, ...	4	-	4	4
Bolton, ...	6	1	7	9
BOSTON, ...	865	149	1,014	4,008
Bourne, ...	9	-	9	11
Boxborough, ...	2	-	2	2
Boxford, ...	1	-	1	1
Boylston, ...	5	-	5	7
Braintree, ...	26	-	26	32
Brewster, ...	4	-	4	5
Bridgewater, ...	13	-	13	21
Brimfield, ...	-	-	-	-
BROCKTON, ...	195	-	195	236
Brookfield, ...	14	-	14	19
Brookline, ...	28	2	30	102
Buckland, ...	7	-	7	9
Burlington, ...	3	-	3	5
CAMBRIDGE, ...	106	11	117	548
Canton, ...	7	-	7	10
Carlisle, ...	2	-	2	2
Carver, ...	6	-	6	7
Charlemont, ...	-	2	2	-
Charlton, ...	10	-	10	11
Chatham, ...	9	-	9	12
Chelmsford, ...	9	-	9	9
CHELSEA, ...	34	4	38	97
Cheshire, ...	9	-	9	10
Chester, ...	2	-	2	2

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Chesterfield, ...	5	-	5	6
CHICOPEE, ...	5	-	5	22
Chilmark, ...	-	-	-	-
Clarksburg, ...	2	-	2	3
Clinton, ...	13	-	13	19
Cohasset, ...	7	1	8	13
Colrain, ...	4	-	4	5
Concord, ...	7	-	7	11
Conway, ...	2	-	2	2
Cummington, ...	4	-	4	4
Dalton, ...	13	-	13	13
Dana, ...	9	-	9	9
Danvers, ...	46	1	47	60
Dartmouth, ...	10	-	10	14
Dedham, ...	7	-	7	13
Deerfield, ...	9	-	9	9
Dennis, ...	11	-	11	14
Dighton, ...	7	-	7	10
Douglas, ...	6	-	6	10
Dover, ...	4	-	4	4
Dracut, ...	4	1	5	8
Dudley, ...	2	-	2	3
Dunstable, ...	-	-	-	-
Duxbury, ...	19	-	19	19
East Bridgewater, ...	14	-	14	17
East Longmeadow, ...	3	-	3	3
Eastham, ...	1	-	1	3
Easthampton, ...	2	1	3	4
Easton, ...	13	-	13	17
Edgartown, ...	7	-	7	11
Egremont, ...	-	-	-	-
Enfield, ...	6	-	6	7
Erving, ...	2	-	2	4
Essex, ...	16	-	16	16
EVERETT, ...	49	5	54	161
Fairhaven, ...	26	-	26	33
FALL RIVER, ...	91	4	95	303

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Falmouth, ...	7	—	7	9
FITCHBURG, ...	42	2	44	92
Florida, ...	—	—	—	—
Foxborough, ...	13	—	13	23
Framingham, ...	35	—	35	51
Franklin, ...	10	—	10	16
Freetown, ...	10	—	10	10
Gardner, ...	17	—	17	29
Gay Head, ...	1	—	1	1
Georgetown, ...	27	—	27	26
Gill, ...	—	—	—	—
GLOUCESTER, ...	88	—	88	157
Goshen, ...	2	—	2	2
Gosnold, ...	—	—	—	—
Grafton, ...	9	—	9	12
Granby, ...	1	—	1	1
Granville, ...	3	—	3	3
Great Barrington, ...	14	—	14	16
Greenfield, ...	16	—	16	35
Greenwich, ...	5	—	5	5
Groton, ...	12	—	12	13
Groveland, ...	16	—	16	—
Hadley, ...	—	—	—	1
Halifax, ...	2	—	2	2
Hamilton, ...	3	—	3	4
Hampden, ...	4	—	4	5
Hancock, ...	—	—	—	—
Hanover, ...	18	—	18	23
Hanson, ...	19	—	19	26
Hardwick, ...	1	—	1	1
Harvard, ...	2	—	2	2
Harwich, ...	11	—	11	15
Hatfield, ...	2	—	2	2
HAVERHILL, ...	149	3	152	184
Hawley, ...	3	—	3	3
Heath, ...	1	—	1	1
Hingham, ...	20	—	20	31

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Hinsdale, ...	4	-	4	4
Holbrook, ...	16	-	16	16
Holden, ...	7	-	7	9
Holland, ...	3	-	3	3
Holliston, ...	10	2	12	15
HOLYROKE, ...	22	5	27	90
Hopedale, ...	4	-	4	4
Hopkinton, ...	23	-	23	23
Hubbardston, ...	11	-	11	11
Hudson, ...	15	-	15	24
Hull, ...	3	-	3	3
Huntington, ...	4	-	4	3
Ipswich, ...	28	-	28	31
Kingston, ...	14	-	14	23
Lakeville, ...	2	-	2	2
Lancaster, ...	3	-	3	5
Lanesborough, ...	6	-	6	7
LAWRENCE, ...	50	2	52	116
Lee, ...	15	-	15	16
Leicester, ...	11	-	11	10
Lenox, ...	3	-	3	3
LEOMINSTER, ...	33	-	33	76
Leverett, ...	5	-	5	6
Lexington, ...	7	-	7	14
Leyden, ...	1	-	1	1
Lincoln, ...	-	-	-	-
Littleton, ...	3	-	3	3
Longmeadow, ...	4	-	4	4
LOWELL, ...	149	6	155	411
Ludlow, ...	2	-	2	8
Lunenburg, ...	4	-	4	3
LYNN, ...	301	15	316	488
Lynnfield, ...	8	-	8	9
MALDEN, ...	90	3	93	239
Manchester, ...	5	-	5	10
Mansfield, ...	16	-	16	19
Marblehead, ...	126	-	126	159

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Marion, ...	8	—	8	6
MARLBOROUGH, ...	53	—	53	97
Marshfield, ...	23	—	23	30
Mashpee, ...	3	—	3	3
Mattapoissett, ...	6	—	6	10
Maynard, ...	3	—	3	4
Medfield, ...	1	1	2	4
MEDFORD, ...	56	6	62	200
Medway, ...	28	—	28	35
MELROSE, ...	34	3	37	81
Mendon, ...	3	—	3	3
Merrimac, ...	11	—	11	12
METHUEN, ...	6	1	7	19
Middleborough, ...	48	—	48	57
Middlefield, ...	—	—	—	1
Middleton, ...	10	—	10	14
Milford, ...	50	1	51	84
Millbury, ...	11	—	11	13
Millis, ...	—	1	1	3
Millville, ...	6	—	6	9
Milton, ...	7	—	7	18
Monroe, ...	—	—	—	—
Monson, ...	7	—	7	11
Montague, ...	11	—	11	20
Monterey, ...	2	—	2	2
Montgomery, ...	1	—	1	1
Mount Washington, ...	—	—	—	—
Nahant, ...	2	—	2	3
Nantucket, ...	12	—	12	21
Natick, ...	58	1	59	70
Needham, ...	14	1	15	22
New Ashford, ...	1	—	1	1
NEW BEDFORD, ...	123	4	127	220
New Braintree, ...	2	—	2	2
North Marlborough, ...	1	—	1	2
New Salem, ...	5	—	5	6
Newbury, ...	27	—	27	28

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
NEWBURYPORT, ...	103	-	103	122
NEWTON, ...	41	-	41	62
Norfolk, ...	3	-	3	6
NORTH ADAMS, ...	29	-	29	37
North Andover, ...	8	-	8	12
North Attleborough, ...	13	-	13	17
North Brookfield, ...	7	-	7	10
North Reading, ...	7	-	7	12
NORTHAMPTON, ...	33	1	34	78
Northborough, ...	8	-	8	9
Northbridge, ...	4	1	5	5
Northfield, ...	5	-	5	5
Norton, ...	8	-	8	8
Norwell, ...	24	-	24	24
Norwood, ...	1	-	1	10
Oak Bluffs, ...	5	-	5	5
Oakham, ...	3	-	3	3
Orange, ...	19	-	19	26
Orleans, ...	3	-	3	8
Otis, ...	3	-	3	3
Oxford, ...	8	-	8	8
Palmer, ...	5	-	5	8
Paxton, ...	4	-	4	5
PEABODY, ...	41	-	41	79
Pelham, ...	4	-	4	5
Pembroke, ...	17	-	17	20
Pepperell, ...	5	-	5	5
Peru, ...	1	-	1	1
Petersham, ...	7	-	7	7
Phillipston, ...	2	-	2	2
PITTSFIELD, ...	50	-	50	61
Plainfield, ...	2	-	2	2
Plainville, ...	7	-	7	6
Plymouth, ...	46	-	46	54
Plympton, ...	7	-	7	6
Prescott, ...	4	-	4	3
Princeton, ...	4	-	4	5

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Provincetown, ...	8	2	10	16
QUINCY, ...	47	1	48	81
Randolph, ...	42	—	42	55
Raynham, ...	8	—	8	10
Reading, ...	17	—	17	28
Rehoboth, ...	2	—	2	5
REVERE, ...	30	—	30	88
Richmond, ...	1	—	1	2
Rochester, ...	2	—	2	4
Rockland, ...	46	—	46	66
Rockport, ...	23	—	23	28
Rowe, ...	2	—	2	3
Rowley, ...	11	—	11	14
Royalston, ...	5	—	5	5
Russell, ...	2	—	2	1
Rutland, ...	4	—	4	6
SALEM, ...	132	5	137	226
Salisbury, ...	14	—	14	22
Sandisfield, ...	4	—	4	3
Sandwich, ...	8	—	8	10
Saugus, ...	33	2	35	60
Savoy, ...	3	—	3	3
Scituate, ...	23	—	23	28
Seekonk, ...	3	—	3	3
Sharon, ...	8	—	8	11
Sheffield, ...	4	—	4	9
Shelburne, ...	7	—	7	7
Sherborn, ...	1	—	1	1
Shirley, ...	3	—	3	3
Shrewsbury, ...	7	—	7	12
Shutesbury, ...	1	—	1	1
Somerset, ...	11	—	11	16
SOMERVILLE, ...	186	5	191	466
South Hadley, ...	2	—	2	4
Southampton, ...	2	—	2	2
Southborough, ...	8	—	8	9
Southbridge, ...	14	—	14	25

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Southwick, ...	5	-	5	4
Spencer, ...	20	-	20	28
SPRINGFIELD, ...	129	5	134	314
Sterling, ...	9	-	9	11
Stockbridge, ...	11	-	11	12
Stoneham, ...	33	-	33	56
Stoughton, ...	40	-	40	50
Stow, ...	3	-	3	3
Sturbridge, ...	4	-	4	4
Sudbury, ...	3	-	3	3
Sunderland, ...	-	-	-	-
Sutton, ...	11	-	11	11
Swampscott, ...	26	-	26	38
Swansea, ...	-	-	-	1
TAUNTON, ...	74	-	74	84
Templeton, ...	4	-	4	6
Tewksbury, ...	1	-	1	6
Tisbury, ...	3	-	3	6
Tolland, ...	-	-	-	-
Topsfield, ...	7	-	7	8
Townsend, ...	8	-	8	14
Truro, ...	1	-	1	3
Tyngsborough, ...	2	-	2	3
Tyringham, ...	-	-	-	1
Upton, ...	18	-	18	20
Uxbridge, ...	9	-	9	15
Wakefield, ...	35	-	35	40
Wales, ...	1	-	1	2
Walpole, ...	3	-	3	10
WALTHAM, ...	52	-	52	131
Ware, ...	8	-	8	11
Wareham, ...	22	-	22	30
Warren, ...	4	-	4	8
Warwick, ...	1	-	1	1
Washington, ...	1	-	1	1
Watertown, ...	14	-	14	30
Wayland, ...	12	-	12	11

	1919.			1918.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Webster, ...	16	—	16	20
Wellesley, ...	3	—	3	4
Wellfleet, ...	4	—	4	8
Wendell, ...	1	—	1	1
Wenham, ...	10	—	10	12
West Boylston, ...	2	—	2	4
West Bridgewater, ...	11	—	11	11
West Brookfield, ...	12	—	12	13
West Newbury, ...	18	—	18	23
West Springfield, ...	17	—	17	27
West Stockbridge, ...	2	—	2	2
West Tisbury, ...	1	—	1	1
Westborough, ...	24	—	24	27
WESTFIELD, ...	57	—	57	82
Westford, ...	5	—	5	9
Westhampton, ...	1	—	1	1
Westminster, ...	6	—	6	9
Weston, ...	4	—	4	3
Westport, ...	3	—	3	3
Westwood, ...	2	—	2	2
Weymouth, ...	63	—	63	96
Whately, ...	2	—	2	2
Whitman, ...	48	—	48	64
Wilbraham, ...	4	—	4	4
Williamsburg, ...	5	—	5	7
Williamstown, ...	14	—	14	18
Wilmington, ...	4	—	4	7
Winchendon, ...	12	—	12	13
Winchester, ...	8	—	8	37
Windsor, ...	1	—	1	2
Winthrop, ...	10	—	10	42
WOBBURN, ...	29	—	29	44
WORCESTER, ...	227	2	229	422
Worthington, ...	2	—	2	3
Wrentham, ...	11	—	11	12
Yarmouth, ...	6	—	6	7
	6,949	271	7,220	14,585

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1921



BOSTON

WRIGHT & POTTER PRINTING CO., STATE PRINTERS
32 DERNE STREET

PUBLICATION OF THIS DOCUMENT
APPROVED BY THE
SUPERVISOR OF ADMINISTRATION.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, Jan. 6, 1922.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of chapter 115, section 2, General Laws, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the matter relating to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1920, and that part relating to pensions covering the year 1921.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, and also disbursements on account of the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, were made by 335 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1920, due and payable on or before Nov. 10, 1921, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war	\$411,450 26
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain	11,151 50
State aid to dependents, German war service	9,496 83
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war	8,597 05
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain	7,742 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border	590 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Germany	41,047 75
Burial expenses of indigent soldiers and their dependents	12,097 87
Total for 1920	\$502,173 26

The decrease in expenditure of \$463,608.54 from 1919 is due to the fact that in the year 1920, the great majority of our service men had been discharged, and therefore their dependents were dropped from the State war allowance rolls. It does not now appear likely that there will be a marked decrease in the above yearly amount for some time, for the reason that when a civil war soldier dies his widow invariably applies for State aid, and the demands for State and military aid by soldiers and sailors of the Spanish war and the war with Germany will increase rather than diminish as the years pass.

The decentralization arrangement of the United States Veterans' Bureau, when effected, should prove to be a great improvement over heretofore existing procedure in the way of expediting the adjudication of compensation and vocational training claims, and should also save the State and the various municipalities a considerable amount in prolonged payments of military aid and soldiers' relief while claimants are waiting for the adjustment of their cases. The United States Bureau at Washington, D. C., and the local office have always shown this Department the utmost courtesy, and their ever-ready disposition to co-operate with us for the good of the service has been a great help to the soldier and a great saving to the State.

State Aid.

The total number of State aid recipients, civil war, for 1920, was 6,716, classified as follows:—

Soldiers	2,128	Decrease	385
Wives	94	Decrease	24
Widows	4,475	Decrease	520
Mothers	3	Decrease	2
Children	15	Increase	3
Army nurses	1		
Total	6,716		

Net decrease of recipients during 1920, 928.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$61.26+.

The total number of State aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1920, was 181, classified as follows:—

Soldiers	16	Decrease	2
Wives	1		
Widows	118	Increase	4
Mothers	45	Increase	3
Fathers	—	Decrease	1
Children	—	Decrease	1
Army nurses	1		
Total	181		

Net increase of recipients during 1920, 3.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$61.61+.

The total number of recipients of State aid, war with Germany, for 1920, was 161, classified as follows:—

Wives	27	Decrease	2,061
Widows	20	Decrease	17
Mothers	86	Decrease	3,377
Fathers	8	Decrease	246
Brothers	1	Decrease	40
Sisters	2	Decrease	118
Children	17	Decrease	71

Total 161

Net decrease of recipients during 1920, 5,930.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$58.98+.

In view of the declaration of peace with Germany which was ratified by Congress July 2, 1921, we are not now carrying on our rolls any dependents of men who are not yet discharged from their world war enlistments.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$57,976.80 — an increase of \$27,-651.04 over 1919 — was disbursed as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers	109	Decrease	5
--------------------	-----	--------------------	---

Spanish war:—

Soldiers	65	Increase	12
--------------------	----	--------------------	----

Mexican Border service:—

Soldiers	5	Increase	4
--------------------	---	--------------------	---

German war:—

Soldiers	406	Increase	221
--------------------	-----	--------------------	-----

Civil war:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$8,528 05
--	------------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$78.96+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	69 00
--	-------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$69.

Spanish war:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	7,152 00
--	----------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$117.24+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	590 00
--	--------

Average cost to State per person aided, \$147.50.

Mexican Border service:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$590 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$118.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.	

German war service:—

Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	35,318 75
Average cost to State per person aided, \$98.10+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	5,729 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$124.54+.	

Total	\$57,976 80
-----------------	-------------

The Commonwealth has expended up to the end of the calendar year 1921 for the aiding of world war soldiers and their dependents approximately \$2,743,318.65.

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Chapter 115, Sections 19-21, General Laws.

The burial law provides for the payment of not exceeding \$60 on account of the burial expense in the cases of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service, and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who die without leaving sufficient means to defray their funeral expenses, if the total amount of the burial expense does not exceed the sum of \$135.

During the year 1920, 214 persons were buried at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$12,097.87. They are classified as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers	116	Decrease	4
Wives	6	Increase	3
Widows	64	Decrease	9
— 186			

Spanish war:—

Soldiers	13		
Wives	1		
Mothers	—	Decrease	1
— 14			

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers	4	Increase	2
Widows	1	Increase	1
	— 5		

German war:—

Soldiers	8	Increase	6
Wives	—	Decrease	1
Mothers	1		
	— 9		

Total 214

Net decrease during 1920, 3.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$56.53+.

STATE AID AND BOUNTIES.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws from 1861 to the close of 1920, were . \$46,546,452 69

State and military aid and burial of soldiers
and sailors on account of 1920, paid in 1921 \$502,173 26

June 2, 1921, paid to Amanda Robare, of Fall
River, by the State Treasurer on account of
the burial expenses of Mitchell Robare
(Resolves, chapter 39) 60 00

\$502,233 26

Nov. 29, 1921, received from the town of
Worthington as reimbursement for over-
payment 6 00

\$502,227 26

Returned to the treasury of the
Commonwealth in the follow-
ing cases, in which payment
was authorized upon misrep-
resentation:—

1921.

Feb. 16, Lois E. Bailey . . .	\$636 00
Feb. 18, Delia B. Magoon . .	282 00
Mar. 8, Ellen B. Baker . . .	325 00
Mar. 16, Amanda Blaisdell . .	528 00

Returned to the treasury of the
Commonwealth, etc.—*Con.*

1921.

Apr. 15, Lois H. Hardy . . .	\$500 00	
Apr. 20, Charles A. Ramsdell . . .	500 00	
May 26, J. S. Waterman & Sons	1,024 00	
May 31, Charles A. Rollins . . .	110 00	
July 7, J. F. O'Donnell & Sons . . .	320 00	
July 12, Emmeline R. Har- rison	2 00	
July 12, Mary E. Prince . . .	2 00	
July 14, Henry W. Childs . . .	2 00	
July 15, George N. Hill . . .	2 00	
July 18, estate of Alex. McMil- lan	1,450 00	
Aug. 6, estate of Alex. McMil- lan, interest	109 72	
July 20, Lewis E. Johnson . . .	2 00	
Oct. 20, Mary E. Mather . . .	610 00	
	\$6,404 72	
		\$495,822 54
Special laws, 1921		504 00
Soldiers' Home, 1921		235,385 23
		\$47,278,164 46

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the civil war to Dec. 1, 1919 . . .	\$17,872,859 82	
Gratuities, civil war (Acts of 1912, chapter 702; Acts of 1913, chapters 105 and 443) . . .	571,750 00	
Gratuities, German war (General Acts of 1919, chapters 283 and 342)	18,098,403 90	
		36,543,013 72
Total to Dec. 1, 1921		\$83,821,178 18

Up to the passage of chapter 222, General Acts of 1921, men who served in the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition or their dependents, were not eligible to receive State or military aid. The law is now amended by the above-mentioned chapter so as to include such men and certain dependents, provided that they were actual residents of Massachusetts at the time of their acceptance into the service. This amendment is given below for the benefit of city and town officials.

CHAPTER 222.

AN ACT TO ALLOW STATE AND MILITARY AID TO MEN WHO SERVED IN THE
PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION OR THE CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section six of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after line forty-six the following new paragraph:—Soldiers or sailors who served in the army, navy, or marine corps of the United States in the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, provided they were residents of and actually residing in the commonwealth at the time of their enlistment or appointment in the service, having been appointed or having enlisted in the army, navy or marine corps after August twelfth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom.

SECTION 2. Section six of said chapter one hundred and fifteen is hereby further amended by adding after the word "Spain", in the seventy-fifth line, the words:—the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition,—and also by inserting after the word "war", in the seventy-eighth line, the words:—, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition,—so that the paragraph contained in lines seventy-four to seventy-nine, inclusive, will read as follows:—The widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom, or dying while in receipt of a pension from the United States or of state aid from the commonwealth, and the wife and widowed mother of any invalid pensioner of the Spanish war, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition.

SECTION 3. Section seven of said chapter one hundred and fifteen is hereby amended by inserting after the word "Spain", in the third line, the words:—the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and five, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to July first, nineteen hundred and nineteen.

SECTION 4. Section ten of said chapter one hundred and fifteen is hereby amended by inserting after the word "wars", in the twelfth line, the words:—the Philippine Insurrection, the China Relief Expedition,—so that the second paragraph will read as follows:—First Class, Each person of the first class

shall have his settlement in the town aiding him; shall have served as a soldier, sailor or nurse in the manner and under the limitations prescribed in the first class of section six; shall have been honorably discharged or released from active duty in such United States service and from all appointments and enlistments therein; shall be poor and indigent and, by reason of sickness or other physical disability, in such need as would entitle him to relief under the pauper laws; shall not be, directly or indirectly, in receipt of any other state or military aid, or of any pension for services rendered or disabilities incurred either in the civil or Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the China Relief Expedition, Mexican border service or world war service as defined in section six. The disability must have arisen from causes independent of his military or naval service aforesaid. [*Approved April 4, 1921.*]

PERSONNEL.

There is a noticeable increase in the number of applications for military aid by sick and disabled veterans of the war with Germany. Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his assistant, Maj. William H. Blanchard, who are overseas veterans, are doing most excellent work in the examination and diagnosis of military aid cases. It would be impossible to deal justly with the disabled soldier in his appeal for military aid were it not for the thoroughness of the chief surgeon's report in each case.

Our agents are maintaining a high standard in their work in the home investigations, and have been successful in the suspension of many cases where the State's generosity was found to be abused. They have made approximately 9,000 investigations at the homes of the recipients or applicants, 700 office examinations, and 2,200 investigations of applicants and beneficiaries in the United States Public Health Service Hospitals.

Col. Edward J. Gihon, who served as a commissioned officer during the Spanish war, was appointed to the position of chief clerk to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. William F. French. Colonel Gihon earned his promotion by earnest, faithful service during his employment as agent in this Department. He has shown rare executive ability, and is well fitted for the position.

When war was declared against Germany and laws were enacted by the Legislature to care for soldiers and their dependents, the Commissioner was obliged to appoint an extra force of temporary clerks and stenographers to care for the many applications for aid from the dependents of soldiers. Since the close of the war, the volume of work incident thereto, instead of decreasing to normalcy,

as was expected, has increased tremendously because of the many applications for aid owing to the prevailing business depression, with the consequent lack of employment, and in order to give prompt and efficient service it was found necessary to retain the services of the temporary stenographers. As I see no prospect of a decrease in the volume of work, I would recommend that the three stenographers now temporarily employed in this Department be made permanent.

During the past year, the Commissioner has accepted the invitations of the commanding officers of the United States Public Health Service Hospital at Parker Hill, Boston, and the Chelsea Naval Hospital to attend the semimonthly meetings of the various organizations interested in the welfare of the ex-service men held at these hospitals. These meetings were most interesting and helpful, as the good of the service was always the main topic of discussion, and they brought out many valuable suggestions for the benefit of the men receiving "in" and "out" patient treatment in the various government hospitals, and created a better understanding of the functions of the government, State and welfare organizations in the various problems of the ex-service men as they arise.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

While the State does not reimburse cities or towns for any part of the soldiers' relief paid by them, the soldiers' relief law (see chapter 115, sections 17, 18, of the General Laws) places certain responsibilities on the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions as to the application of this law when cities or towns refuse or neglect to pay this form of relief, or the amount paid is inadequate for the needs of the beneficiary. The unemployment conditions of the past year were responsible for many applications for soldiers' relief, and these applications have taxed to the utmost the appropriations made for this purpose. Where so many applications have been made and appropriations were fast dwindling because of the expenditures on this account, it was to be expected that many soldiers, and their dependents, would be aggrieved in regard to the amount paid to them. When these aggrieved parties appeal to the Commissioner, the law requires him to investigate, and we have received many appeals during the past year which have been carefully investigated, and have made decisions that proved to be satisfactory to the applicant and to the municipality paying the soldiers' relief.

When application is made for military aid or soldiers' relief, chapter 171, General Acts of 1919, obliges city and town officials to notify the corresponding official in the city or town of the applicant's legal settlement within three days when the applicant is not residing in the place of legal settlement, and also requires them to notify the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions. This notice has accomplished excellent results in preventing delay and hardship where such assistance was needed for immediate relief.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending Dec. 31, 1921.

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (general law), original	10
Soldiers (general law), increase	8
Soldiers (act, May 1, 1920), civil war	241
Soldiers (act, March 4, 1917), Indian wars	11
Soldiers (act, June 5, 1920), Spanish war	594
Widows (general law)	3
Widows (act, May 1, 1920), civil war	209
Widows (act, March 4, 1917), Indian wars	5
Widows (act, July 16, 1918), Spanish war	60
Widows (accrued)	15
Wife (act, March 3, 1899), one-half pension	3
Mothers	3
Fathers	1
Reimbursement	146
New certificates	5
Unendorsed checks	1
Guardians' claims	3
Certificates in lieu of discharge	1
Restoration	1
Total	1,320
Number of claims allowed	611
Number of claims rejected	218

The past year has been one of the busiest in the history of this Department. In addition to the number of applications filed, more than 4,000 depositions were examined and forwarded to the Pension Bureau at Washington. Over 2,000 affidavits have been written by the clerks for claimants and their witnesses in the prosecution of pension claims. Many persons who file claims through other agencies come to this office for advice and assistance in securing evidence called for by the United States Pension Bureau, and affidavits are

written for them also, which are not recorded in our files. Inquiries by telephone have very materially increased, and letters asking for information regarding pension laws are received from all over the United States.

A number of Spanish war claims which were rejected under the act of June 5, 1920, have been reopened for another medical examination, in accordance with a new ruling adopted by the Pension Bureau under date of Aug. 26, 1921, a copy of which follows:—

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER,
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF PENSIONS,
WASHINGTON, Aug. 26, 1921.

The act of June 5, 1920, provides that a person, otherwise entitled under the act, having a mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character not the result of vicious habits, which so incapacitates for the performance of manual labor as to render him unable to earn a support, shall receive a pension not exceeding \$30 per month and not less than \$12 per month, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support.

The ratings proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support should be based, as far as practicable, upon the average impairments of earning capacity so far as manual labor is concerned, and not upon the impairment in earning capacity in each individual case, so that there should be no reduction in rating for individual success in overcoming the handicap of a permanent disability.

The Congress has, in the generous provisions incorporated in the act of Oct. 6, 1917 (Section 302, Paragraph 2), recognized a reduction of 10 per centum in earning capacity resulting from disability as entitling to benefits.

With this in mind, and in the belief that like liberal treatment should be accorded the veterans of the war with Spain, the minimum rate (\$12) should be allowed when a material disability is shown to exist from causes of a permanent character. With this fixed to accord to the minimum reduction in earning capacity recognized by Congress as entitling to benefits, the ratings proportioned to other degrees of inability should be based upon the consideration of reductions in earning capacity, approximating one-fourth, one-half, three-fourths and total disability. By this method the scale of ratings under the act of June 5, 1920, would be \$12, \$15, \$18, \$24 and \$30 per month.

Where many minds are concerned in the determination of adequate ratings to be allowed, the difficulty is recognized of having uniform actions without some scale, such as proposed, with which to measure the varying degrees of reduction of earning capacity. At the same time the degrees of inability to earn a support to which the rates from \$12 to \$30 have been proportioned should not be considered as fixed, but rather as guide posts for the approximation of the degree of reduction of earning capacity.

As was stated when this act was being considered in the committee of the House of Representatives, the words, "which so incapacitates them from the

performance of manual labor as to render them unable to earn a support" were intended to convey the idea, "which lessens their ability to earn a support."

Hence, if a man's ability to earn a support is lessened by causes of a permanent character, he is entitled to a rating under the act of June 5, 1920, proportioned to the degree to which this ability is lessened. With this as the working rule, there should be no difficulty in arriving at a just and proper determination in the general run of cases. Exceptional cases should receive the personal consideration of the medical referee.

The modification herein of the practice under which claims under the act of June 5, 1920, have heretofore been medically adjudicated shall not of itself operate to reopen or rerate any claim heretofore adjudicated in accordance with the practice existing at the date of its adjudication.

WASHINGTON GARDNER,
Commissioner.

APPROVED:

E. C. FINNEY,
Acting Secretary.

An important decision, favorable to widows of Spanish war veterans, was handed down by the Pension Bureau Sept. 17, 1921. Under this decision certain widows, who formerly were not eligible for a pension by reason of the fact that the soldier or sailor husband did not serve ninety days in hostile territory, may now make application for a pension regardless of where the veteran was stationed during the war with Spain. The following is a copy of the notice relating thereto, issued by the Bureau: —

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
BUREAU OF PENSIONS, WASHINGTON, Sept. 27, 1921.

ADVANCE NOTICE.

In claim of Ida Mae, widow of John J. McCourt, United States Navy (W. O. 1170453), rejected upon the ground that sailor did not render ninety days actual naval service in the war with Spain, as his service in Cuban and Porto Rican waters was less than ninety days, and otherwise he was not stationed in hostile waters or within the theatre of hostilities during his service from July 28, 1898, to Feb. 28, 1899, the Bureau action has been reversed on appeal.

The Department in decision handed down Sept. 17, 1921, holds that in the act of July 16, 1918, "the word volunteer is used to distinguish volunteer from regular service. By 'Regular Establishment' is meant soldiers and sailors belonging to and enlisted for the permanent organization and thus becoming a part of the 'Regular Establishment'. The volunteer is the soldier or sailor who enlisted for an existing emergency or for some particular war only, as part of a temporary force, and for the period of time provided in legislation enacted to meet such emergencies."

The act of April 22, 1898, was an act creating an additional force to meet the exigency of a war or threatened invasion and "it was undoubtedly the intention of Congress that all men enrolled and mustered into service for two years as volunteers under the act of April 22, 1898, or amendments thereto, should be classed as volunteers" regardless of the particular branch of the service to which assigned for duty. "Any soldier who enlisted under the act of April 22, 1898, for a period of two years, even though he may have been assigned to a particular branch in the Army known as Regular, would be a volunteer within the meaning of the act."

"The determination of whether a person who enlisted was a volunteer or a regular is ascertained from the fact of the term for which he enlisted and not of the organization or branch of the army to which he was assigned. The same rule must be applied to volunteers or regulars in the Navy."

The act of May 4, 1898, enabling the Secretary of the Navy to man ships as a temporary force during the existing war, and that service thereunder shall only be during the continuance of the exigencies under which their service was required, and the act of May 26, 1898, authorizes an auxiliary naval force, "not exceeding 3,000 enlisted men for the exigencies of the present War with Spain to serve for a period of one year or less." "It is clear that men enlisting in the Navy for one year were not enlisting in the 'Regular Establishment' but were volunteers. The distinction between volunteers and regulars in the Navy is readily ascertained by the period for which enlisted as well as by date of discharge." "Those who enlisted for three years or more were part of the 'Regular Establishment'. Those who enlisted for one year or during the period of hostilities were volunteers."

HAYS HAYMAKER,
Chief Clerk.

The thanks of this Department are due Hon. Washington Gardner, Commissioner of Pensions, and his entire office staff, for promptness in replying to inquiries and the many courtesies extended in the prosecution of pension claims.

RECIPIENTS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID.

The following is a detailed statement showing the number of civil and Spanish war recipients of State and military aid under the provisions of chapter 290, General Acts of 1919, the number of dependents of soldiers of the Mexican Border service under the provisions of chapter 314, General Acts of 1916, and the number of dependents of soldiers of the German war service under the provisions of chapter 179, General Acts of 1917, as amended by chapter 108, General Acts of 1918, who were drawing aid in the various cities and towns in this Commonwealth on Dec. 31, 1920: —

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Abington	34	—	—	34	40
Acton	7	—	—	7	7
Acushnet	1	—	—	1	2
Adams	10	—	—	10	12
Agawam	4	—	—	4	4
Alford	1	—	—	1	1
Amesbury	25	—	—	25	28
Amherst	12	—	—	12	10
Andover	11	—	—	11	13
Arlington	23	—	1	24	29
Ashburnham	6	—	—	6	7
Ashby	3	—	—	3	5
Ashfield	5	—	—	5	6
Ashland	16	—	—	16	14
Athol	33	—	—	33	35
ATTLEBORO	24	—	—	24	30
Auburn	7	—	—	7	7
Avon	7	—	—	7	10
Ayer	3	—	—	3	4
Barnstable	19	—	2	21	19
Barre	5	—	—	5	9
Becket	5	—	—	5	5

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Bedford	2	-	-	2	3
Belchertown	16	-	-	16	20
Bellingham	8	-	-	8	9
Belmont	9	-	2	11	9
Berkley	1	-	-	1	2
Berlin	7	-	-	7	7
Bernardston	-	-	-	-	-
BEVERLY	91	-	-	91	110
Billerica	4	-	-	4	4
Blackstone	6	-	-	6	6
Blandford	4	-	-	4	4
Bolton	5	-	-	5	7
BOSTON	733	1	183	917	1,014
Bourne	9	-	-	9	9
Boxborough	2	-	-	2	2
Boxford	1	-	1	2	1
Boylston	4	-	1	5	5
Braintree	24	-	-	24	26
Brewster	2	-	-	2	4
Bridgewater	10	-	-	10	13
Brimfield	-	-	-	-	-
BROCKTON	164	-	4	168	195
Brookfield	14	-	-	14	14
Brookline	23	-	3	26	30
Buckland	8	-	-	8	7
Burlington	2	-	-	2	3
CAMBRIDGE	104	-	12	116	117
Canton	6	-	-	6	7
Carlisle	2	-	-	2	2
Carver	6	-	-	6	6
Charlemont	-	-	-	-	2
Charlton	7	-	-	7	10
Chatham	9	-	-	9	9
Chelmsford	8	-	-	8	9
CHELSEA	34	-	8	42	38
Cheshire	8	-	-	8	9
Chester	2	-	-	2	2

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Chesterfield	5	—	—	5	5
CHICOPEE	4	—	—	4	5
Chilmark	—	—	—	—	—
Clarksburg	2	—	—	2	2
Clinton	14	—	—	14	13
Cohasset	8	—	—	8	8
Colrain	4	—	—	4	4
Concord	6	—	—	6	7
Conway	1	—	—	1	2
Cummington	3	—	—	3	4
Dalton	11	—	—	11	13
Dana	9	—	—	9	9
Danvers	36	—	—	36	47
Dartmouth	9	—	—	9	10
Dedham	9	—	1	10	7
Deerfield	9	—	—	9	9
Dennis	10	—	—	10	11
Dighton	6	—	—	6	7
Douglas	6	—	—	6	6
Dover	4	—	1	5	4
Dracut	4	—	—	4	5
Dudley	2	—	—	2	2
Dunstable	—	—	—	—	—
Duxbury	16	—	—	16	19
East Bridgewater	11	—	—	11	14
East Longmeadow	2	—	—	2	3
Eastham	2	—	—	2	1
Easthampton	2	—	—	2	3
Easton	11	—	—	11	13
Edgartown	7	—	—	7	7
Egremont	—	—	—	—	—
Enfield	6	—	—	6	6
Erving	2	—	—	2	2
Essex	15	—	—	15	16
EVERETT	46	—	5	51	54
Fairhaven	25	—	—	25	26
FALL RIVER	80	—	3	83	95

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Falmouth	8	-	-	8	7
FITCHBURG	35	1	3	39	44
Florida	-	-	-	-	-
Foxborough	14	-	-	14	13
Framingham	21	-	-	21	35
Franklin	8	-	-	8	10
Freetown	9	-	-	9	10
Gardner	16	-	-	16	17
Gay Head	1	-	-	1	1
Georgetown	21	-	-	21	27
Gill	-	-	-	-	-
GLOUCESTER	79	-	4	83	88
Goshen	2	-	-	2	2
Gosnold	-	-	-	-	-
Grafton	8	-	-	8	9
Granby	1	-	-	1	1
Granville	3	-	-	3	3
Great Barrington	11	-	1	12	14
Greenfield	17	-	-	17	16
Greenwich	4	-	-	4	5
Groton	11	-	-	11	12
Groveland	13	-	1	14	16
Hadley	-	-	-	-	-
Halifax	2	-	-	2	2
Hamilton	2	-	-	2	3
Hampden	4	-	-	4	4
Hancock	-	-	-	-	-
Hanover	16	-	-	16	18
Hanson	15	-	-	15	19
Hardwick	1	-	-	1	1
Harvard	2	-	-	2	2
Harwich	12	-	-	12	11
Hatfield	1	-	-	1	2
HAVERHILL	113	-	4	117	152
Hawley	2	-	-	2	3
Heath	1	-	-	1	1
Hingham	17	-	1	18	20

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Hinsdale	1	—	—	1	4
Holbrook	14	—	—	14	16
Holden	5	—	—	5	7
Holland	3	—	—	3	3
Holliston	11	—	—	11	12
HOLYOKE	20	—	—	20	27
Hopedale	4	—	—	4	4
Hopkinton	18	—	—	18	23
Hubbardston	9	—	—	9	11
Hudson	15	—	—	15	15
Hull	3	—	—	3	3
Huntington	4	—	—	4	4
Ipswich	18	—	—	18	28
Kingston	12	—	—	12	14
Lakeville	2	—	—	2	2
Lancaster	2	—	—	2	3
Lanesborough	4	—	—	4	6
LAWRENCE	40	—	14	54	52
Lee	12	—	—	12	15
Leicester	6	—	—	6	11
Lenox	2	—	—	2	3
LEOMINSTER	30	—	—	30	33
Leverett	3	—	—	3	5
Lexington	7	—	—	7	7
Leyden	1	—	—	1	1
Lincoln	—	—	—	—	—
Littleton	2	—	—	2	3
Longmeadow	4	—	—	4	4
LOWELL	114	—	12	126	155
Ludlow	2	—	—	2	2
Lunenburg	2	—	—	2	4
LYNN	261	—	10	271	316
Lynnfield	7	—	—	7	8
MALDEN	91	—	10	101	93
Manchester	4	—	—	4	5
Mansfield	14	—	—	14	16
Marblehead	109	—	—	109	126

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Marion	8	—	—	8	8
MARLBOROUGH	50	—	5	55	53
Marshfield	22	—	—	22	23
Mashpee	3	—	—	3	3
Mattapoisett	5	—	—	5	6
Maynard	3	—	—	3	3
Medfield	1	—	—	1	2
MEDFORD	50	—	2	52	62
Medway	25	—	—	25	28
MELROSE	32	—	3	35	37
Mendon	2	—	—	2	3
Merrimac	9	—	1	10	11
METHUEN	7	—	4	11	7
Middleborough	42	—	1	43	48
Middlefield	—	—	—	—	—
Middleton	7	—	—	7	10
Milford	39	—	1	40	51
Millbury	10	—	—	10	11
Millis	1	—	—	1	1
Millville	4	—	—	4	6
Milton	7	—	—	7	7
Monroe	—	—	—	—	—
Monson	3	—	—	3	7
Montague	10	—	—	10	11
Monterey	2	—	—	2	2
Montgomery	1	—	—	1	1
Mount Washington	—	—	—	—	—
Nahant	1	—	—	1	2
Nantucket	10	—	—	10	12
Natick	47	—	—	47	59
Needham	12	—	—	12	15
New Ashford	1	—	—	1	1
NEW BEDFORD	113	—	6	119	127
New Braintree	2	—	—	2	2
New Marlborough	1	—	—	1	1
New Salem	5	—	—	5	5
Newbury	21	—	—	21	27

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
NEWBURYPORT	85	—	2	87	103
NEWTON	32	—	2	34	41
Norfolk	2	—	—	2	3
NORTH ADAMS	25	—	—	25	29
North Andover	7	—	1	8	8
North Attleborough	11	—	—	11	13
North Brookfield	8	—	—	8	7
North Reading	7	—	—	7	7
NORTHAMPTON	30	—	1	31	34
Northborough	6	—	—	6	8
Northbridge	4	—	—	4	5
Northfield	5	—	—	5	5
Norton	8	—	—	8	8
Norwell	21	—	1	22	24
Norwood	2	—	1	3	1
Oak Bluffs	5	—	—	5	5
Oakham	3	—	—	3	3
Orange	19	—	1	20	19
Orleans	2	—	—	2	3
Otis	2	—	—	2	3
Oxford	7	—	—	7	8
Palmer	5	—	—	5	5
Paxton	3	—	—	3	4
PEABODY	33	—	—	33	41
Pelham	3	—	—	3	4
Pembroke	15	—	—	15	17
Pepperell	6	—	—	6	5
Peru	1	—	—	1	1
Petersham	5	—	—	5	7
Phillipston	2	—	—	2	2
PITTSFIELD	45	—	—	45	50
Plainfield	1	—	—	1	2
Plainville	6	—	—	6	7
Plymouth	40	—	—	40	46
Plympton	6	—	—	6	7
Prescott	4	—	—	4	4
Princeton	3	—	—	3	4

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Provincetown	6	—	2	8	10
QUINCY	43	—	1	44	48
Randolph	35	—	—	35	42
Raynham	8	—	—	8	8
Reading	10	—	1	11	17
Rehoboth	2	—	—	2	2
REVERE	25	—	4	29	30
Richmond	1	—	—	1	1
Rochester	2	—	—	2	2
Rockland	46	—	—	46	46
Rockport	22	—	—	22	23
Rowe	2	—	—	2	2
Rowley	10	—	—	10	11
Royalston	4	—	—	4	5
Russell	2	—	—	2	2
Rutland	4	—	—	4	4
SALEM	108	—	1	109	137
Salisbury	12	—	—	12	14
Sandisfield	4	—	—	4	4
Sandwich	5	—	—	5	8
Saugus	28	—	—	28	35
Savoy	2	—	—	2	3
Scituate	21	—	—	21	23
Seekonk	2	—	—	2	3
Sharon	7	—	—	7	8
Sheffield	2	—	—	2	4
Shelburne	7	—	—	7	7
Sherborn	1	—	—	1	1
Shirley	3	—	—	3	3
Shrewsbury	8	—	—	8	7
Shutesbury	1	—	—	1	1
Somerset	9	—	—	9	11
SOMERVILLE	162	—	10	172	191
South Hadley	2	—	—	2	2
Southampton	2	—	—	2	2
Southborough	8	—	—	8	8
Southbridge	14	—	—	14	14

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Southwick	3	—	—	3	5
Spencer	17	—	—	17	20
SPRINGFIELD	125	—	5	130	134
Sterling	6	—	—	6	9
Stockbridge	8	—	—	8	11
Stoneham	30	—	—	30	33
Stoughton	36	—	—	36	40
Stow	3	—	—	3	3
Sturbridge	4	—	—	4	4
Sudbury	3	—	—	3	3
Sunderland	—	—	—	—	—
Sutton	11	—	—	11	11
Swampscott	24	—	—	24	26
Swansea	—	—	—	—	—
TAUNTON	59	—	1	60	74
Templeton	3	—	—	3	4
Tewksbury	2	—	—	2	1
Tisbury	5	—	—	5	3
Tolland	—	—	—	—	—
Topsfield	7	—	—	7	7
Townsend	8	—	—	8	8
Truro	1	—	—	1	1
Tyngsborough	2	—	—	2	2
Tyringham	—	—	—	—	—
Upton	16	—	—	16	18
Uxbridge	6	—	—	6	9
Wakefield	25	—	1	26	35
Wales	1	—	—	1	1
Walpole	3	—	—	3	3
WALTHAM	43	—	3	46	52
Ware	8	—	—	8	8
Wareham	19	—	—	19	22
Warren	3	—	—	3	4
Warwick	1	—	—	1	1
Washington	1	—	—	1	1
Watertown	14	—	—	14	14
Wayland	13	—	—	13	12

	1920.				1919.
	Civil and Spanish Wars.	Mexican Border Service.	German War Service.	Total.	Total.
Webster	13	-	-	13	16
Wellesley	2	-	-	2	3
Wellfleet	3	-	-	3	4
Wendell	1	-	-	1	1
Wenham	8	-	-	8	10
West Boylston	2	-	-	2	2
West Bridgewater	10	-	-	10	11
West Brookfield	10	-	-	10	12
West Newbury	14	-	-	14	18
West Springfield	16	-	-	16	17
West Stockbridge	2	-	-	2	2
West Tisbury	-	-	-	-	1
Westborough	23	-	-	23	24
WESTFIELD	48	-	-	48	57
Westford	6	-	-	6	5
Westhampton	1	-	-	1	1
Westminster	5	-	-	5	6
Weston	2	-	-	2	4
Westport	4	-	-	4	3
Westwood	2	-	-	2	2
Weymouth	61	-	-	61	63
Whately	1	-	-	1	2
Whitman	41	-	-	41	48
Wilbraham	2	-	-	2	4
Williamsburg	5	-	-	5	5
Williamstown	13	-	-	13	14
Wilmington	3	-	-	3	4
Winchendon	12	-	-	12	12
Winchester	6	-	1	7	8
Windsor	1	-	-	1	1
Winthrop	10	-	2	12	10
WOBURN	29	1	2	32	29
WORCESTER	198	-	2	200	229
Worthington	-	-	-	-	2
Wrentham	9	-	-	9	11
Yarmouth	6	-	-	6	6
	6,043	3	355	6,401	7,220

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1922



BOSTON

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APPROVED BY THE
COMMISSION ON ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JAN. 8, 1923.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In conformity with the requirements of section 2, chapter 115, General Laws, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part referring to State and military aid and burials being for the year 1921, and the matter relating to pensions covering the year 1922.

Respectfully yours,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and military aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, and also disbursements on account of burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, were made by 336 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1921, due and payable on or before Nov. 10, 1922, as follows:—

State aid to soldiers and dependents, civil war	\$368,755 00
State aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain . . .	12,128 50
State aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine service . . .	102 00
State aid to soldiers and dependents, German war service . . .	3,117 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, civil war	6,482 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain	10,781 50
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine service . . .	210 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border	952 00
Military aid to soldiers and sailors, German war service . . .	80,992 58
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	9,330 00
Total for 1921	\$492,850 58

There is a decrease of \$44,810.31 over 1920 in the expenditure of State and military aid by reason of the decrease of many of our civil war State-aid recipients. Against the above-noted decrease, there is a noticeable increase in the amounts paid out in State and military aid to the veterans of the Spanish and German wars, and their dependents, as was expected by reason of the advancing years of the soldiers and sailors of the Spanish war and Philippine Insurrection, who are very often confronted with the realization that

increasing age and disabilities are seriously handicapping them in the employment situation in competition against younger and more rugged men, and in the cases of disabled veterans of the German war by reason of their claims for government compensation not being allowed because they are unable to prove that their disability was of service origin. In many cases where the amount of compensation granted was inadequate, the State was obliged to supplement an allowance of military aid.

We have received excellent co-operation from the United States Veterans' Bureau at Washington, D. C., when information was requested regarding pending cases. The district manager of the United States Veterans' Bureau, located in Boston, has given the agents of this Department every assistance in the matter of advice and information regarding cases in process of adjustment before them, so that the State was saved much extra expense by actual knowledge as to when compensation claims would be allowed. The officers in charge of the department headquarters of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars have also been extremely helpful in lending their efforts in straightening out the many difficulties of the ex-service men. The chief surgeons of the Chelsea Naval Hospital, Parker Hill Hospital and the West Roxbury Hospital have on every occasion given us all the support possible in the way of information concerning the physical and mental condition of their inmates, which advice has been of great help to us in the speedy adjustment of claims for military aid.

State Aid.

The total number of State-aid recipients, civil war, for 1921, was 5,886, classified as follows: —

Soldiers	1,770	Decrease	358
Wives	57	Decrease	37
Widows	4,038	Decrease	437
Mothers	2	Decrease	1
Children	19	Increase	4
Army nurses	—	Decrease	1
Total	5,886		

Net decrease of recipients during 1921, 830.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.64+.

The total number of State-aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1921, was 196, classified as follows: —

Soldiers	21	Increase	5
Wives	1		
Widows	124	Increase	6
Mothers	49	Increase	4
Army nurses	1		
Total	196		

Net increase of recipients during 1921, 15.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.40+.

The total number of State-aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection service, for 1921, was 4, classified as follows: —

Soldiers	3
Widows	1
Total	4

Average cost to State per person aided, \$25.50.

The total number of recipients of State aid, war with Germany, for 1921, was 58, classified as follows: —

Soldiers	3	Increase	3
Wives	2	Decrease	25
Widows	20		
Mothers	16	Decrease	70
Fathers	—	Decrease	8
Brothers	—	Decrease	1
Sisters	—	Decrease	2
Children	17		
Total	58		

Net decrease of recipients during 1921, 103.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$53.74+.

Military Aid.

Military aid to the amount of \$99,418.08 — an increase of \$41,-441.28 over 1921 — was disbursed as follows: —

Civil war: —			
Soldiers	89	Decrease	20
Spanish war: —			
Soldiers	87	Increase	22
Philippine Insurrection: —			
Soldiers	5	Increase	5
Mexican Border service: —			
Soldiers	7	Increase	2
German war: —			
Soldiers	854	Increase	448
Civil war: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2			\$6,482 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$72.83.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4			—
Spanish war: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2			10,426 50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$124.12+.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4			355 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$177.50.			
Philippine service: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2			210 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$35.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4			—
Mexican Border service: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2			952 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$136.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4			—
German war service: —			
Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2			76,548 58
Average cost to State per person aided, \$93.23+.			
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4			4,444 00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$143.35.			
Total			\$99,418 08

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws.

Provision is made for the payment of an amount not exceeding \$60 on account of the burial expense in the cases of soldiers, sailors and marines of the civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, also army nurses, who die without leaving sufficient means to defray their funeral expenses, provided the total amount expended for burial does not exceed the sum of \$135.

During the year 1921, 161 claims were allowed at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$9,330. They are classified as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers	85	Decrease	31
Wives	8	Increase	2
Widows	52	Decrease	12
	— 145		

Spanish war:—

Soldiers	3	Decrease	10
Wives	—	Decrease	1
	— 3		

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers	2	Decrease	2
Widows	—	Decrease	1
	— 2		

German war:—

Soldiers	11	Increase	3
Mothers	—	Decrease	1
	— 11		

Total 161

Net decrease during 1921, 53.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$57.95+.

STATE AID AND BOUNTIES.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and military aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1921, were \$47,278,164 46

State and military aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1921, paid in 1922	\$492,946 58	
April 9, 1922, paid to Maud L. Barlow under special act (chapter 47, Resolves of 1922) .	60 00	
	\$493,006 58	
Less refunds on account of payments of previous years	282 00	
		492,724 58
Special laws, 1922		468 00
Soldiers' Home, 1922		185,000 00
Total Nov. 30, 1922		\$47,956,357 04

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the civil war to date	\$17,872,859 82	
Gratuities (Acts of 1912, chapter 702; Acts of 1913, chapters 105 and 443)	571,750 00	
Gratuities (General Acts of 1919, chapters 283 and 342)	18,185,869 90	
		36,630,479 72
Total Nov. 30, 1922		\$84,586,836 76

Prior to the enactment of chapter 177, Acts of 1922, military settlements could only be acquired in the city or town where the soldier resided at the time of his acceptance for war service, provided he served over one year or received a discharge for disability in the line of duty. The requirement of one year's service to gain a military settlement worked hardship to many honorably discharged veterans and their dependents where the soldier, sailor or marine had served less than one year and had not acquired a civil settlement in his own right or derived one through his parents, thereby obliging them to accept aid from the overseers of the poor.

The passage of the above chapter prevents the pauperizing of the worthy veteran and his dependents, and it is no longer a condition precedent that an ex-service man have one year's service for the acquisition of a military settlement. All that is required as regards service is an honorable discharge from all enlistments without regard to the length of time served. The act was also amended to include soldiers of the Philippine Insurrection in its provisions. I therefore deem it advisable to publish this law for the information of municipal authorities.

CHAPTER 177.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ACQUISITION OF SETTLEMENTS BY SOLDIERS AND SAILORS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section one of chapter one hundred and sixteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out all after the word "town" in the twenty-seventh line down to and including the word "enemy" in the thirtieth line, by inserting after the word "not" in the thirty-ninth line the words: —, or who enlisted and served in said forces during the Philippine insurrection, — and by striking out, in the fortieth line the words, "subject to the same proviso," — so that clause Fifth will read as follows: — *Fifth*, A person who enlisted and was mustered into the military or naval service of the United States, as a part of the quota of a town in the commonwealth under any call of the president of the United States during the war of the rebellion or any war between the United States and any foreign power, or who was assigned as a part of the quota thereof after having enlisted and been mustered into said service, and his wife or widow and minor children, shall be deemed thereby to have acquired a settlement in such town; and any person who would otherwise be entitled to a settlement under this clause, but who was not a part of the quota of any town, shall, if he served as a part of the quota of the commonwealth, be deemed to have acquired a settlement, for himself, his wife or widow and minor children, in the place where he actually resided at the time of his enlistment. Any person who was inducted into the military or naval forces of the United States under the federal selective service act, or who enlisted in said forces in time of war between the United States and any foreign power, whether he served as a part of the quota of the commonwealth or not, or who enlisted and served in said forces during the Philippine insurrection, and his wife or widow and minor children shall be deemed to have acquired a settlement in the place where he actually resided in this commonwealth at the time of his induction or enlistment. But these provisions shall not apply to any person who enlisted and received a bounty for such enlistment in more than one place unless the second enlistment was made after an honorable discharge from the first term of service, nor to any person who has been proved guilty of wilful desertion, or who left the service otherwise than by reason of disability or an honorable discharge. [Approved March 18, 1922.]

Chapter 229, Acts of 1922, extended the marriage date from April 11, 1905, making widows of Spanish war service men eligible to receive State aid when marriage to the veteran was prior to April 11, 1915. The law so far as applied to the widow of a veteran of the Philippine Insurrection service was not changed, the limitation in the date of marriage in such cases remaining April 11, 1905. The change of marriage date regarding Spanish war widows explains the present increase in that class of State-aid applications.

The law with reference to the above is as follows: —

CHAPTER 229.

AN ACT EXTENDING THE BENEFITS OF STATE AID TO CERTAIN WIDOWS OF
SPANISH WAR VETERANS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section seven of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by section three of chapter two hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the eighth line, the word "five" and inserting in place thereof the following: — fifteen in case his service was in the war with Spain or before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and five in case his service was in the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and if his widow, before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and fifteen in case his service was in the war with Spain or before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and five in case his service was in the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to July first, nineteen hundred and nineteen. [Approved March 31, 1922.]

Chapter 378, Acts of 1922, provides for the payment to Posts of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars of an allowance not to exceed \$50 on account of the burial expense of any soldier, sailor or marine who died overseas during the world war. This act became operative Aug. 1, 1922, and applications for the burial allowance were required to be made before Dec. 31, 1922.

We have received approximately 600 claims under the above act, at an expense of \$30,000.

The following is a copy of the law relating thereto:—

CHAPTER 378.

AN ACT PROVIDING ALLOWANCES FOR THE BURIAL EXPENSES OF CERTAIN SOLDIERS, SAILORS AND MARINES.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. A post of The American Legion or of the Veterans of Foreign Wars may be granted an allowance for expenses actually incurred in a military funeral or burial of a soldier, sailor or marine of the United States who died in over seas service during the world war, not exceeding fifty dollars in each case; provided, that if financial assistance has been received from any public or private source in conducting such funeral or burial, the sum so allowed shall be reduced by the amount of such assistance, and provided further that where two or more such posts jointly conduct or assist in conducting such a funeral or burial the said allowance shall be paid to both posts in such proportions as the commissioner of state aid and pensions approves.

SECTION 2. Application for such allowance may be made, not later than December thirty-first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two, on special forms prepared by said commissioner, to the officials charged with the disbursement of state and military aid for soldiers and sailors and their dependents in the city or town where the post entitled thereto is located. Said officials shall forward the application to the commissioner, who, after examination, shall allow and endorse thereon such amount as he may find to be due such post or posts applying under this act. The amount so allowed shall be paid by the treasurer of the city or town, and the commonwealth shall reimburse such city or town therefor when reimbursing it for payments of state and military aid. [*Approved May 2, 1922.*]

PERSONNEL.

Our outside force of investigators has given very close attention in following up cases as they have been allowed, and in the investigation of new claims. They have made 8,529 home examinations and reported on 1,875 military-aid cases receiving treatment in government hospitals, and have also made 300 office examinations.

In the matter of physical examinations required before military-aid allowances are authorized, we are receiving from Col. Frank P. Williams, chief surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his assistant, Maj. William H. Blanchard, the best of professional advice and information in the diagnoses of the claimants' disabilities. The thoroughness of these medical examinations has caused a great saving to the Commonwealth in preventing payments of military aid to men not entitled thereto.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

It would appear from our agents' reports and from the occasional complaints and criticisms from soldiers and their dependents relative to the payment of State and military aid and soldiers' relief that there is a growing tendency on the part of some city and town governments to place the determination and allowance of applications for the above forms of aid in the office of the almoner and the overseers of the poor. This practice is very properly resented by soldiers and their dependents, who many times refrain from applying for assistance when they find that they are obliged to have their cases investigated by an agent connected directly or indirectly with the poor department. The intent of the law relating to State and military aid and soldiers' relief is to give the worthy soldier and his dependent proper relief without in any way tainting it with the humiliation of being obliged to receive aid through any person connected with the overseers of the poor or the almoner. I have therefore proposed an act to the incoming Legislature which should, in my opinion, effect a remedy by removing any semblance of pauperism in the aiding of worthy soldiers and their dependents, and should also tend to secure better service by definitely placing the responsibility of aiding soldiers and their dependents on one office or agency.

The conditions regarding unemployment do not indicate the acuteness of the past few years, and for that reason the claims for soldiers' relief have somewhat diminished. We are, however, obliged under the law to make many examinations where parties are aggrieved by reason of the refusal of the municipal authorities to grant soldiers' relief, or because the amount granted by them is not ample to meet the needs of the individual. Our agents have been very successful in bringing about satisfactory agreements in these appeals.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending Dec. 31, 1922.

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (general law), original	14
Soldiers (general law), increase	7
Soldiers (act, May 1, 1920), civil war	166
Soldiers (act, March 4, 1917), Indian wars	7
Soldiers (act, June 5, 1920), Spanish war	690
Nurse (act, June 5, 1920), Spanish war	1
Widows (general law)	2
Widows (act, May 1, 1920), civil war	178
Widows (act, March 4, 1917), Indian wars	6
Widows (act, July 16, 1918), Spanish war	60
Widows (act, Sept. 1, 1922), Spanish war	70
Widows (accrued pension)	12
Wife (act, March 3, 1899), one-half pension	3
Mothers	2
Reimbursement	123
New certificates	8
Old claims	5
Guardians' claims	4
Certificate in lieu of discharge	3
 Total	 1,361
 Number of claims allowed	 809
Number of claims rejected	531

By an act of Congress approved May 3, 1922, the payment of pensions monthly instead of quarterly, as heretofore, became effective Sept. 4, 1922.

Under a decision of the Pension Commissioner, approved Aug. 28, 1922, civil war veterans who were in receipt of \$72 per month, or who had claims for increase to that rate pending under act of May 1, 1920, were given the privilege of submitting affidavits of the attending physician or attendant, showing from what date the pen-

sioner first required the regular personal aid and attendance of another person, with a view to determining from what date the \$72 rate should commence. Previously the increase from \$50 to \$72 per month dated from the examination of the pensioner by the Board of Pension Surgeons, but under the new ruling the increase may commence from any date subsequent to May 1, 1920, if affidavits are filed which prove that from a certain date the pensioner has required the constant care of another person. Those whose claims for increase to the \$72 rating had been granted prior to the new ruling, had the date of commencement changed and received the increase from an earlier date upon furnishing the proof required by the Pension Commissioner.

On the 1st of September, 1922, Congress passed a law which is very much broader in its scope than any previous law affecting widows or former widows of Spanish war veterans. By this act the rate of pension was increased from \$12 to \$20 per month for widows and dependent parents, and from \$2 to \$4 per month for minors. The yearly income of a widow is no longer a factor in the adjudication of claims under this act, and any widow or former widow of a Spanish war veteran who was married to him prior to the passage of the act is eligible for a pension. Thus many widows who were debarred from receiving a pension under the act of July 16, 1918, are now eligible under the provisions of the act of Sept. 1, 1922.

Under the act of Sept. 1, 1922, the benefits of the act of June 5, 1920, are extended to include certain nurses who served during the war with Spain.

The following is a full copy of the text of the act of Sept. 1, 1922: —

[PUBLIC — No. 294 — 67TH CONGRESS.]

[H. R. 4.]

AN ACT GRANTING RELIEF TO SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE WAR WITH SPAIN, PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION, AND CHINESE BOXER REBELLION CAMPAIGN; TO WIDOWS, FORMER WIDOWS, AND DEPENDENT PARENTS OF SUCH SOLDIERS AND SAILORS; AND TO CERTAIN ARMY NURSES; AND TO AMEND SECTION 2 OF AN ACT ENTITLED "AN ACT TO PENSION THE SURVIVORS OF CERTAIN INDIAN WARS FROM JANUARY 1, 1859, TO JANUARY, 1891, INCLUSIVE, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES," APPROVED MARCH 4, 1917.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the widow of any officer or enlisted man who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of

the United States during the War with Spain, the Chinese Boxer rebellion, or the Philippine insurrection, between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, inclusive, service to be computed from date of enlistment to date of discharge, and was honorably discharged from such service, or, regardless of the length of service, was discharged for or died in service of a disability incurred in the service and line of duty, such widow having married such soldier, sailor, or marine prior to the passage of this Act, shall, upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his Army or Navy service, be placed upon the pension roll from the date of the filing of her application therefor under this Act, at the rate of \$20 per month during her widowhood. And this section shall apply to a former widow of any officer or enlisted man who rendered service as hereinbefore described, and who was honorably discharged, or died in service due to disability or disease incurred in the service, such widow having remarried either once or more than once after the death of the soldier, sailor, or marine, if it be shown that such subsequent or successive marriage has or have been dissolved, either by the death of the husband or husbands, or by divorce without fault on the part of the wife; and any such former widow shall be entitled to and be paid a pension at the rate of \$20 per month; and any widow or former widow as mentioned in this section shall also be paid \$4 per month for each child of such officer or enlisted man under the age of sixteen years, and in case of the death or remarriage of the widow leaving a child or children of such officer or enlisted man under the age of sixteen years, such pension shall be paid such child or children until the age of sixteen years: *Provided*, That in case a minor child is insane, idiotic, or otherwise mentally or physically helpless, the pension shall continue during the life of such child, or during the period of such disability; and this proviso shall apply to all pensions heretofore granted or hereafter to be granted under this or any former statute: *Provided further*, That in case of any widow whose name has been dropped from the pension roll because of her remarriage, if the pension has been granted to an insane, idiotic, or otherwise helpless child, or to a child or children under the age of sixteen years, she shall not be entitled to renewal of pension under this Act until the pension to such child or children terminates, unless such child or children be a member or members of her family and cared for by her, and upon renewal of pension to such widow, payment of pension to such child or children shall cease.

SEC. 2. That the benefits of the Act of Congress approved June 5, 1920, entitled "An Act to pension soldiers and sailors of the War with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, and the China relief expedition," be, and are hereby, extended to include any woman who served honorably as an Army nurse, chief nurse, or superintendent of the Nurse Corps, under contract for ninety days or more between the beginning of the War with Spain and February 2 1901, when the Nurse Corps (female) was declared by law a component part of the Army, and any such nurse who was released from service before the expiration of ninety days because of disability contracted in line of duty in said service: *Provided*, That the release from service of any nurse, chief nurse, or superintendent shall operate as if she had received an honorable discharge, it being the intent and purpose to give to said nurses, chief nurses, and super-

intendents of the Nurse Corps (female) the same status in all respects as members of said corps who served after February 2, 1901: *Provided*, That no person shall receive more than one pension for the same period: *Provided further*, That all dependent parents of any officer or enlisted man who served in the War with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the Chinese Boxer rebellion, whose names are now on the pension roll, or who are now entitled to pension under any existing law, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$20 per month.

SEC. 3. That from and after the approval of this Act, all persons whose names are on the pension roll and all persons hereafter granted a pension, who while in the military or naval service of the United States under the provision of this Act and all other Acts relating to pensions of soldiers who served in the War with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the Chinese Boxer rebellion and in line of duty shall have lost both hands or both feet or been totally disabled therein, or who while in such service and in like manner sustained injuries that proved the direct cause of the subsequent total disability of both hands or both feet, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$100 per month.

SEC. 4. That the pension or increase of pension herein provided for, as to all persons whose names are now on the pension roll, or who are now in receipt of a pension under existing law, shall commence at the rates herein provided from the date of the approval of this Act; and as to persons whose names are not now on the pension roll, or who are not now in receipt of pension under existing law, but who may be entitled to pension under the provisions of this Act, such pensions shall commence from the date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 5. That in the adjudication of claims arising under section 1 of this Act, and claims arising under the provisions of the Act entitled "An Act to pension soldiers and sailors of the War with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, and the China Relief Expedition," approved June 5, 1920, all leaves of absence, and furloughs under General Orders, Numbered One hundred and thirty, August 29, 1898, War Department, shall be included in determining the period of pensionable service: *Provided*, That as to any claimant who filed an application for pension under the Act of July 16, 1918, or the Act of June 5, 1920, and whose application is still pending in the Bureau of Pensions or has been rejected on the ground that ninety days' service was not shown exclusive of the leave of absence or furlough under the order herein referred to, the pension shall commence from the date when the original application was filed in the Bureau of Pensions, and as to claims under the Act of July 16, 1918, the pension shall be at the rate provided in that Act, with increase at the rate provided herein from the date of the approval of this Act: *Provided further*, That persons who are now receiving pensions under existing laws, or whose claims are pending in the Bureau of Pensions, may, by application to the Commissioner of Pensions, in such form as he may prescribe, showing themselves entitled thereto, receive the benefits of this Act; and nothing herein shall be so construed as to prevent any pensioner thereunder from prosecuting his claim under any

other general or special Act: *And provided further*, That this Act shall not be so construed as to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private: *Provided, however*, That no person shall receive more than one pension for the same period.

SEC. 6. That the second section of the Act entitled "An Act to pension the survivors of certain Indian wars from January 1, 1859, to January, 1891, inclusive, and for other purposes," approved March 4, 1917, be so amended as to read as follows:

"SEC. 2. That the period of service performed by beneficiaries under this Act shall be determined: First, by reports from the records of the War Department, where there are such records; second, by reports from the records of the Treasury Department showing payment by the United States, where there is no record of regular enlistment or muster into the United States military service; and third, when there is no record of service or payment for same in the War Department or the Treasury Department, by satisfactory evidence from muster rolls on file in the several State or Territorial archives; fourth, where there is no muster roll or pay roll on file in the several State or Territorial archives showing service of the beneficiary or same has been destroyed by fire or otherwise lost, and no record of service has been made in the War Department or Treasury Department, the applicant may make proof of service by furnishing evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner of Pensions: *Provided*, That the want of a certificate of discharge shall not deprive any applicant of the benefits of this Act."

SEC. 7. That no claim agent or attorney or other person shall be recognized in the adjustment of claims under this Act except in claims for original pension, and in such cases no more than the sum of \$10 shall be allowed for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any such claim, which sum shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of a pension allowed or due to such pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every such offense, be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Approved, September 1, 1922.

On Sept. 22, 1922, the President signed an act to provide for the applicability of the pension laws to certain classes of persons in the military and naval services not entitled to the benefits of Article III of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended.

This act provides —

That section 312 of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended by section 17 of the Act of June 25, 1918 (Fortieth Statutes, page 613) shall not be construed as making the pension laws inapplicable to persons admitted into the military

or naval service after six months from the passage of the Act of August 9, 1921, establishing the Veterans' Bureau and adding section 315 to the War Risk Insurance Act.

As legislation stood prior to the approval of this act, the provisions of the War Risk Insurance Act, as amended, did not apply to persons entering the military or naval service after Feb. 9, 1922, and the pension laws were not applicable to such persons.

By the provisions of this act, jurisdiction is reinvested in the Pension Bureau, and the general pension laws made applicable to all persons admitted into the military or naval forces of the United States after Feb. 9, 1922, and whose services have been or may hereafter be terminated by death due to a cause originating in the service and line of duty or by disability from wound or injury received or disease contracted in the service and in the line of duty.

The decrease in work on civil war claims has been more than offset by Spanish war claims. A large number of the latter were rejected; and at the request of the claimants who were not satisfied with the decision, they were reopened through this office, and new evidence filed to substantiate the claims.

On account of the great number of affidavits called for by the Pension Bureau to prove disability, it has been necessary to employ an extra clerk for pension work.

The thanks of this Department are due the Hon. Washington Gardner and his entire office staff for their hearty co-operation and courtesy in all matters pertaining to pension claims.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1925



1926

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions,
State House, Boston, January 7, 1926.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the matter relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1924, and that part relating to pensions covering the year 1925.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1925

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, and also on account of burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, were made by 322 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1924, reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1925, as follows:—

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$245,987.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain	13,482.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	948.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service	2,753.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	2,882.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain	9,612.25
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	1,048.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border	937.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	51,260.70
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	4,142.50
Total for 1924	\$333,053.95

The decrease of many Civil War recipients is mainly the cause of a decrease from the former report of \$43,304.15. The increase in the pensions of Civil War veterans, where they require regular aid and attention, from \$50 a month to \$72, making it unnecessary in many cases to continue their state aid allowance, tended also to the reduction in the amount paid to Civil War recipients. The ever ready cooperation we are receiving from the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, Washington, D. C., and the manager and staff of the local Bureau in Boston, cannot be excelled. At no time in our dealings with each other has there been a semblance of any attempt to evade the financial responsibility or physical care of a veteran when it had been decided that the case should be cared for either by the State or the U. S. Veterans' Bureau. Our Agents in their visits to investigate the needs of applicants for Military Aid have received every courtesy and helpful advice from the Chief Surgeons of the U. S. Naval Hospital at Chelsea, and the U. S. Veterans' Hospital at West Roxbury in the matter

of medical reports of claimants, which have proved invaluable as a matter of protection to the State. Excellent support has also been given us by the headquarters of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars in the matter of service to the veterans and those dependent on them.

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1924, was 3984, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 1035; decrease, 252.

Wives, 22; decrease, 9.

Widows, 2907; decrease, 454.

Children, 20; decrease, 1.

Total, 3984.

Net decrease of recipients during 1924, 716.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$61.74+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1924, was 217, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 25; decrease, 2.

Wives, 2.

Widows, 156; decrease, 1.

Mothers, 33; decrease, 8.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 217.

Net decrease of recipients during 1924, 11.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.12+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection service, for 1924, was 17, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 6; decrease, 3.

Widows, 10; increase, 2.

Mothers, 1.

Total, 17.

Net decrease of recipients during 1924, 1.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$55.76+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, war with Germany, for 1924, was 60, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 3; increase, 1.

Widows, 28; increase, 12.

Mothers, 14; increase, 2.

Fathers, 1.

Children, 13.

Army nurses, 1; increase, 1.

Total, 60.

Net increase of recipients during 1924, 16.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$45.88+.

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$65,741.45—an increase of \$5,257.20 from 1923—was disbursed as follows:—

Civil war soldiers, 40; decrease, 17.

Spanish war soldiers, 102; increase, 3.

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 15; increase, 3.

Mexican Border service soldiers, 8; decrease, 1.

German war soldiers, 504; increase, 12.

German war army nurses, 2; increase, 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2,.....\$2,882.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$72.06+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2,.....\$9,612.25

Average cost to State per person aided, \$94.23+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2,.....\$1,048.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$69.90.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2,.....\$937.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$117.18+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2,.....\$51,260.70

Average cost to State per person aided, \$101.30+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

Total\$65,741.45

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 262 and 266, Acts of 1924.

The burial law provides for the payment of an amount not to exceed \$60.00 for the burial or funeral expenses in the cases of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Indian Campaigns, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who die without leaving ample means to defray their funeral expenses, on condition, however, that the total expense of the burial by whomsoever incurred does not exceed \$160.00.

During the year 1924, 76 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$4,142.50—classified as follows:—

Civil War:—

Soldiers, 22; decrease, 32.

Wives, 1.

Widows, 37; decrease, 17.

Total, 60.

Spanish War:—

Soldiers, 3; decrease, 1.

Wives, 1; increase, 1.

Widows, 0; decrease, 1.

Mothers, 0; decrease, 1.

Total, 4.

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers, 0; decrease, 3.

Mothers, 0; decrease, 1.

Total, 0.

German War:—

Soldiers, 12; increase, 3.

Total, 12.

Net decrease during 1924, 52.

Average burial cost to State per person, \$54.50+.

Many times in the past this Department has been notified in writing or in person of a tax payer's complaint in regard to a city or town that was granting Soldiers' Relief contrary to the intent of the Soldiers' Relief law. While it would seem that ample provision was made for a veteran or his dependent who was denied relief, there appeared to be no redress in the law for the tax payer when it appeared that the disbursing authorities of cities and towns were granting aid in excess of the amount intended by the law or acting contrary to its intent in aiding unworthy cases. It was therefore considered necessary to enact a law to remedy such a situation should it arise in the future. See Chapter 137, Acts of 1925.

Much delay and irritation in the determination of the legal settlements of veterans and their dependents have been avoided by the passage of Chapter 187, Acts of 1925. Prior to the passage of this law, many cities and towns

denied settlement for the reason that it appeared that a person, while in the process of acquiring a settlement in a jurisdiction, received the merest form of public aid or treatment even though no charge for same was made to the recipient or the jurisdiction of the recipient's settlement. In a great majority of these cases, the parties aided were unaware that they were accepting public aid or that the treatment received had the effect of pauperizing them and defeating the acquisition of a legal settlement in the place where they were residing. Said Chapter 187 amends the settlement law as set forth in Chapter 116 of the General Laws so that if a soldier or his dependent who is eligible to receive Military Aid or Soldiers' Relief under Chapter 115 of the General Laws receives aid or treatment in any hospital or other institution, such aid or treatment shall not have the effect of preventing or defeating the acquisition of a legal settlement. I deem it advisable to publish these acts for the guidance of municipal authorities.

[CHAP. 137.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE INVESTIGATION OF CERTAIN COMPLAINTS CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section eighteen and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 18.* The aldermen or selectmen shall furnish such relief without authority of a vote of the city council or of the town. Such relief shall be furnished only by, through or under the agency or direction of city or town officers authorized to disburse state or military aid. Upon complaint of any person aggrieved by the failure to furnish such relief or upon complaint of any citizen that such relief is being granted contrary to the provisions of the preceding section, the commissioner shall forthwith make a thorough investigation and determine the amount of relief, if any, to be given. The decision of the commissioner shall be final, but may at any time be amended or reversed by him.

Approved March 18, 1925.

[CHAP. 187.]

AN ACT TO PREVENT THE PAUPERIZATION OF CERTAIN VETERANS OR THEIR DEPENDENTS BY THE RECEIPT OF AID OR TREATMENT IN HOSPITALS OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

SECTION 1. Section four of chapter one hundred and sixteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following:—If a soldier or a dependent of a soldier eligible to receive military aid or soldiers' relief under chapter one hundred and fifteen receives aid or treatment in any hospital or other institution, such aid or treatment shall not have the effect of preventing or defeating the acquisition of a legal settlement,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 4.* No person who actually supports himself and his family shall be deemed to be a pauper by reason of the commitment of his wife, child or other relative to a state hospital or institution of charity, reform or correction by order of a court or magistrate, and of his inability to maintain such person therein; or who, to the best of his ability, has attempted to provide for himself and his dependents and has not been a mendicant, and who, through no crime or misdemeanor of his own, has come into grievous need and receives aid or assistance given temporarily, or partial support continuously, to him or his family; provided, that nothing herein shall be construed to affect, directly or indirectly, settlement, poor, or pauper laws, or laws under which any charity, aid or assistance is furnished by public authority. If a soldier or a dependent of a soldier eligible to receive military aid or soldiers' relief under chapter one hundred and fifteen receives aid or treatment in any hospital or other institution, such aid or treatment shall not have the effect of preventing or defeating the acquisition of a legal settlement.

SECTION 2. Section three of said chapter one hundred and sixteen is hereby

amended by adding at the end thereof the words:—except as otherwise provided by section four in the case of a soldier or a dependent of a soldier eligible to receive military aid or soldiers' relief under chapter one hundred and fifteen,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 3.* No person while receiving aid under chapter one hundred and eighteen or for whom the commonwealth or a town has incurred expense in consequence of smallpox, scarlet fever, diphtheria, tuberculosis, dog bite requiring anti-rabic treatment or other disease dangerous to the public health, shall be deemed to be a pauper by reason thereof, but while receiving such aid and treatment he shall not acquire or be in process of acquiring a settlement except as otherwise provided by section four in the case of a soldier or a dependent of a soldier eligible to receive military aid or soldiers' relief under chapter one hundred and fifteen.

Approved March 28, 1925.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1924, were		\$49,191,959 17
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1924, paid in 1925		333,053 95
		\$49,525,013 12
Less refunds on account of payments of previous years		1,066 25
		\$49,523,946 87
Special laws, 1925		
Soldiers' Home, 1925		215,000 00
Total November 30, 1925		\$49,738,946 87

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the Civil war to date		\$17,872,859 82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Chap. 702; Acts 1913, Chapters 105 and 443)	572,000 00	
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Chapters 283 and 342)	18,464,018 72	36,908,878 54
Total November 30, 1925		\$86,647,825 41

SOLDIERS' RELIEF

While the State does not reimburse cities and towns for any part of the aid granted under the Soldiers' Relief law—Chapter 115, sections 17 and 18, General Laws—there is a provision in this law which gives veterans and their dependents who are aggrieved in the matter of payment a right of appeal to the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, which obliges him to investigate with reference to such appeal and cause a decision to be made, which decision may be amended or reversed by him if conditions warrant it. The particular contention or dispute in most of these appeals arises in reference to determining the place of the legal settlement of the applicant that should legally assume the financial burden of Soldiers' Relief rather than any desire on the part of municipal authorities to shirk their responsibility in the case. This Department received 139 appeals under this law, which necessitated considerable investigation on the part of our Agents to establish proof of legal settlement and satisfy the municipalities as to the need in these cases. We have endeavored to deal fairly with the aggrieved parties and the cities or towns of legal settlement, and it would appear that our decisions and rulings have been satisfactory to the persons concerned. Favorable action was taken on my recommendation to the Legislature of last year that veterans of

all our wars and their dependents be placed on the same basis so far as the determination and continuance of their legal settlements were concerned, which has greatly simplified procedure in Soldiers' Relief claims. See Chapter 34, Acts of 1925.

[CHAP. 34.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE SETTLEMENT OF SOLDIERS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section five of chapter one hundred and sixteen of the General Laws, as amended by chapter four hundred and seventy-nine of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-two, is hereby further amended by striking out the comma after the word "settlement" in the fourteenth line and by inserting after the word "sixteen" in the fifteenth line the words:—, or any settlement subsequently acquired,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 5.* Each settlement existing on August twelfth, nineteen hundred and eleven, shall continue in force until changed or defeated under this chapter, but from and after said date failure for five consecutive years by a person, after reaching the age of twenty-one, to reside in a town where he had a settlement shall defeat such settlement. The time during which a person shall be an inmate of any almshouse, jail, prison, or other public or state institution, within the commonwealth or in any manner under its care and direction, or that of an officer thereof, or of a soldiers' or sailors' home whether within or without the commonwealth, shall not be counted in computing the time either for acquiring or for losing a settlement, except as provided in section two. The settlement existing on August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, or any settlement subsequently acquired, of a soldier and his dependent eligible to receive military aid and soldiers' relief under existing laws shall be and continue in force while said soldier or dependent actually resides in the commonwealth and until a new settlement is gained in another town in the manner heretofore prescribed.

Approved February 17, 1925.

PERSONNEL

The clerks and agents in this department are keeping up the high quality of service to the veteran and his dependents, as is indicated by the many expressions of appreciation we receive in our daily routine. Our agents have rendered excellent service, and have made 8756 house calls and 967 hospital calls to interview sick and disabled veterans in local and Government hospitals, and prepared 154 new applications in hospitals in order to expedite Military Aid claims of applicants who were far removed from the city or town of their legal settlement. Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his staff are doing excellent work in the medical survey of applicants for Military Aid referred to him by this office. The clearness of his diagnoses and his advice in the medical surveys enable us to deal favorably with the worthy veteran and also protect the State from those who would abuse its generosity.

It is with regret that I have to report the death on March 19 last of Charles C. Donoghue, examiner of legal settlement and support claims. Mr. Donoghue was a veteran of the Spanish-American War. He was well informed regarding his duties, and rendered faithful service to the Commonwealth.

PENSION DEPARTMENT

Herewith is submitted a brief summary of the work performed in the Pension Department during the year 1925.

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), Original	9
Soldiers (General Law), Increase	7
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Original	4
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Increase	333
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars	8
Soldiers (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish War, Original	526
Soldiers (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish War, Increase	255
Nurses (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish War	1

P. D. 68	9
Widows (General Law)	12
Widows (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War	143
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars	5
Widows (Act Sept. 1, 1922), Spanish War	84
Widows (Accrued Pension)	14
Wives (Act March 3, 1899), One-half pension	1
Mothers	4
Fathers	1
Helpless children	1
Guardians	8
Reimbursement	72
Unendorsed checks	7
New pension certificate	7
Certificate in lieu of discharge	2
Arrears of pay	2
Application for change of name	1
Ten years' service pension	1
	1508
Number of claims allowed	1004
Number of claims rejected	476

There was no new legislation affecting pensions for Civil or Spanish War veterans or their dependents during the year 1925.

Two hundred and eighty-five Civil War veterans, who filed claims through this office were granted an increase in pension from \$50. to \$72. per month, under the Act of May 1, 1920. In some instances the United States Pension Commissioner sent a physician to the home of the applicant, but in the majority of the claims an affidavit of the attending or family physician was accepted by the Pension Bureau as sufficient proof that the veteran was entitled to the increase.

The allowance of the additional \$22. per month has assisted in relieving the Commonwealth as well as its municipalities of the burden of paying aid to those whose pension of \$50. per month was inadequate to care for their needs.

Spanish War claims were received in about the same proportion this year as in the year 1924. Many of the veterans whose claims were rejected have applied again and are now receiving an increased rate. All applicants under the Act of June 5, 1920, are required to file an affidavit of a physician and if the Pension Commissioner is satisfied that the man's physical condition, as set forth in the affidavit, warrants an examination by the pension surgeons, an order is sent to the claimant to appear before the examining board.

Those who apply on account of disability resulting from an accident, are called upon to furnish their own sworn statement and that of two eyewitnesses, showing the time, place and incurrence of the accident, and whether or not it was in any way due to the veteran's own misconduct.

Approximately 2500 letters were received from the United States Pension Bureau, and in complying with their requirements fully 5000 documents were filed through this office during the year 1925. Many of the claimants brought their witnesses to this office and the necessary papers were filled out by the clerks, who also administered the oath, thereby saving the veterans and widows the expense of having the work done by a Notary Public or Justice of the Peace.

In widows' claims this office has obtained about 450 records of marriage, birth and death in the Office of the Secretary of State, without expense to the widows. In complicated cases where there were several marriages of the veteran or his widow, and the events took place outside of Massachusetts, letters have been written to assist the widow in obtaining certified copies of the records, and affidavits prepared for her to send to witnesses residing in distant places. A record of all the evidence forwarded to Washington in pension claims is kept in our files for reference.

This department is maintained primarily for the benefit of soldiers, sailors and their dependents having a residence in the Commonwealth of Massachu-

setts. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws are received from persons residing in other states, however, and prompt and careful attention is given to every communication.

Many persons who have filed claims through pension attorneys or claim agents in Washington, D. C., come to this office for advice regarding the obtaining of evidence called for by the Pension Bureau. Such cases receive the same attention that is given to claims filed through this department. Affidavits are written for them and they are assisted in every possible way to procure the necessary testimony and records to prove their title to a pension. Much time is consumed on these cases but as the original claims were not filed through this office no record of the work is kept.

The detail connected with the prosecution of pension claims is considerable, but the work has been facilitated by our friendly relations with the Honorable Winfield Scott, United States Pension Commissioner, who has endeavored to lessen the requirements as far as it is practicable to do so. Thanks are due the Commissioner and his office force for their courtesy and the attention given to claims filed by this department.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASS.
DOCS.
COLL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1924

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their dependents, and also on account of burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, were made by 324 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1923, reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1924, as follows:—

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil war	\$286,719 00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain	14,160 00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine service	1,046 00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German war service	2,176 00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil war	4,146 50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain	9,159 00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine service	861 75
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border	894 50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German war service	45,422 50
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	11,772 85
Total for 1923	\$376,358 10

A decrease of \$84,581.26 from our former report will be noticed, which has been caused mainly by the passing away of many of our Civil war recipients. The reduction of the amount paid as Military Aid to veterans of the German war was brought about mostly by reason of the more speedy adjudication of U. S. compensation claims by the U. S. Veteran's Bureau, which made it unnecessary for us to carry men on our Military Aid rolls for long periods while awaiting action on their government claims. We are still receiving excellent co-operation from the U. S. Veteran's Bureau, Washington, D. C., and the officials of the local Bureau in Boston have given us every help possible as regards information concerning

decisions in compensation claims pending before them, which not only meant a saving to the State and the various municipalities, but was also a help in giving this office a better understanding of the claims and conditions surrounding each case. The Chief Surgeons of the U. S. Naval Hospital at Chelsea, Mass., and the U. S. Veteran's Hospital in West Roxbury, Mass., have received our agents very kindly, and on every occasion have given us the diagnoses of cases, which proved most helpful in our determination of military aid claims submitted to us by the cities and towns of the Commonwealth. The Headquarters office of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars have also given this department their best efforts to enable us best to serve veterans and their dependents.

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil war, for 1923, was 4,700, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 1,287; decrease, 244.

Wives, 31; decrease, 17.

Widows, 3,361; decrease, 366.

Children, 21; increase, 4.

Total, 4,700.

Net decrease of recipients during 1923, 623.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$61.00+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish war, for 1923, was 228, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 27; increase, 2.

Wives, 2; increase, 1.

Widows, 157; increase, 13.

Mothers, 41; decrease, 8.

Children, —; decrease, 1.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 228.

Net increase of recipients during 1923, 7.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.10+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection service, for 1923, was 18, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 9; increase, 4.

Widows, 8; increase, 3.

Mothers, 1; decrease, 1.

Total, 18.

Net increase of recipients during 1923, 6.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$58.11+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, war with Germany, for 1923, was 44, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 2.

Widows, 16; decrease, 2.

Mothers, 12.

Fathers, 1.

Children, 13; increase, 1.

Total, 44.

Net decrease of recipients during 1923, 1.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$49.45+.

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$60,484.25—a decrease of \$26,064.88 from 1922—was disbursed as follows:—

Civil war soldiers, 57; decrease, 15.

Spanish war soldiers, 99; decrease, 1.

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 12.

Mexican Border service soldiers, 9; decrease, 3.

German war soldiers, 492; decrease, 299.

German war army nurses, 1; decrease, 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, \$4,146.50.
Average cost to State per person aided, \$72.74+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, —.

SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, \$9,159.00.
Average cost to State per person aided, \$92.51+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, —.

PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, \$861.75.
Average cost to State per person aided, \$71.81+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, —.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, \$834.50.
Average cost to State per person aided, \$104.31+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, \$60.00.
Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.00.

GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2, \$45,422.50.
Average cost to State per person aided, \$92.13+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, —.

Total, \$60,484.25.

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws.

The burial act provides for the payment of an amount not to exceed \$60.00 for the burial or funeral expenses in the cases of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who die without leaving ample means to defray their funeral expenses, on condition, however, that the total expense of the burial by whomsoever incurred does not exceed \$135.00.

During the year, 1923, 128 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$7,047.62, classified as follows:—

Civil war:—

Soldiers, 54; increase, 7.

Wives, 1; decrease, 6.

Widows, 54; decrease, 4.

Total, 109.

Spanish war:—

Soldiers, 4; decrease, 7.

Widows, 1; increase, 1.

Mothers, 1; increase, 1.

Total, 6.

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers, 3; increase, 3.

Mothers, 1; increase, 1.

Total, 4.

Mexican Border:—

Soldiers, —; decrease, 1.

Total, —.

German war:—

Soldiers, 9; decrease, 6.

Total, 9.

Net decrease during 1923, 11.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$55.05+.

Chapter 262, Acts of 1924, amended the burial law by including in its provisions veterans who served in the Indian campaigns if in receipt of pension, and also extended the benefit of the law to their wives, mothers and widows. The widows of such veterans are eligible if married prior to March 4, 1917, and they had been in receipt of pension under the Act of Congress of March 4, 1917.

The burial law was further amended by Chapter 266, Acts of 1924. Prior to its passage the maximum amount that could be expended for a funeral toward which the State would contribute was \$135.00, and this amendment increases the maximum amount to \$160.00.

I deem it advisable to publish these Acts.

CHAP. 262, ACTS, 1924

AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF BURIAL EXPENSES OF VETERANS OF THE INDIAN CAMPAIGNS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section nineteen and inserting in place thereof the following: — *Section 19.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or in the Indian campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine Insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican Border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the World war; provided, that the soldier or sailor died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section 6, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow, in receipt of a pension, under the Act of Congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine Insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to January first, nineteen hundred and ten; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican Border service or of the World war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from such service. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the World war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

Approved April 17, 1924.

CHAP. 266, ACTS, 1924

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MAXIMUM EXPENSE OF A FUNERAL OF A SERVICE MAN TO WHICH THE COMMONWEALTH WILL CONTRIBUTE.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section twenty of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by section sixty-eight of chapter three hundred and sixty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-three, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the sixth line, the words "one hundred and thirty-five" and inserting in place thereof the words:—one hundred and sixty,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 20.* The expense of a burial as aforesaid shall not exceed sixty dollars, two dollars

of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent causing the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed one hundred and sixty dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the Commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part of any cemetery or burial ground so used. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier or sailor, the regiment, company, station, organization or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall be certified on oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the town expending the amount, within three months after the burial; and the commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as he finds have been paid, and reported according to the foregoing provisions, and shall transmit the certificate to the comptroller. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the Commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after the expenditures have been made.

Approved April 17, 1924.

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors or Marines Who died Overseas.

Chapters 258 and 396, Acts of 1923, extended the scope of the provisions of Chapter 378, Acts of 1922, relative to the burial expenses incurred by Posts of the American Legion and Veterans of Foreign Wars for a military funeral or burial of a soldier, sailor or marine who died overseas while in the service of the United States. Under the provisions of Chapters 258 and 396, Acts of 1923, 119 claims were allowed involving an expense of \$4,725.23.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1923, were		\$48,602,086 82
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1923, paid in 1924		376,358 10
		\$48,978,444 92
Less refunds on account of payments of previous years		1,485 75
		\$48,976,959 17
Special laws, 1924		-
Soldiers' Home, 1924		215,000 00
Total November 30, 1924		\$49,191,959 17

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the Civil war to date		\$17,872,859 82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Chap. 702; Acts 1913, Chapters 105 and 443)		572,000 00
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Chapters 283 and 342)		18,406,123 43
Total November 30, 1924		\$86,042,942 42

The enactment of Chapter 280, Acts of 1924, changed the limitation as to date of marriage eligibility from April 11, 1905, to April 11, 1915, in the cases of widows of veterans of the Philippine Insurrection and of the China Relief Expedition. This change in the law gives the widows of such veterans the same status as the widows of veterans who served in the war with Spain. The wisdom of the

passage of this act has been shown by the fact that many worthy cases have already been benefited by its enactment.

I deem it advisable to publish this act for the information of municipal authorities and others interested.

CHAP. 280

AN ACT EXTENDING THE BENEFITS OF STATE AID TO CERTAIN WIDOWS OF VETERANS OF THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION AND OF THE CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section seven of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by section three of chapter two hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one and by chapter two hundred and twenty-nine of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-two, is hereby further amended by striking out all after the word "fifteen" in the seventh line down to and including the word "Expedition" in the tenth line, so as to read as follows:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive State Aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and fifteen, and if his service was in the Civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican Border or in the World war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to July first, nineteen hundred and nineteen. *Approved April 22, 1924.*

An important change favorable to widows of German war veterans in amending Chapter 115, Section 6, was effected by the passage of Chapter 357, Acts of 1924. Prior to its enactment the widow of a German war veteran, in order to prove her eligibility to receive State Aid, was obliged to submit proof that her husband died of wounds or disability of service origin. This condition worked hardship in many cases by reason of the widow's inability to furnish such proof, and was the subject of a recommendation by the Governor in his message to the Legislature that these widows be placed on the same status of eligibility to receive State Aid as widows of veterans of the Civil and Spanish wars. The law as amended is given below for the information of city and town officials.

CHAP. 357

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PAYMENT OF STATE AID TO CERTAIN VETERANS OF THE WORLD WAR AND TO CERTAIN DEPENDENT RELATIVES OF SUCH VETERANS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section six of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by sections one and two of chapter two hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the sixty-fourth, sixty-fifth and sixty-sixth lines, as printed in the General Laws, the words "and provided further, that such soldier, sailor or nurse was honorably discharged from such service by reason of illness or disability incurred therein," and by striking out, in the eighty-ninth and ninetieth lines, as so printed, the words "such service from injuries received or disabilities or illness incurred therein" and inserting in place thereof the words:—all enlistments or appointments in such service, — so as to read as follows:—*Section 6.* The recipient of State Aid shall have a residence, and shall actually reside, in the town from which such aid is received, shall not receive aid from any other town in the Commonwealth or from any other state, shall be in such needy circumstances as to require public assistance, and, if a soldier, sailor or nurse, shall have been honorably discharged from all appointments and enlistments in the army or navy, shall be so far disabled, as the result of his service in the army or navy, as to prevent him from following his usual occupation, and shall belong to one of the following classes:

First Class, invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this Commonwealth in the Civil War, between April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and September first, eighteen hundred and sixty-five; or who served in such army or navy in the military organizations of this Commonwealth known as three months' men, ninety days' men or one hundred days' men mustered into the service of the United States in April, May, June or July, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, or in April, May, July or August, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, or who, having their residence and actually residing in this Commonwealth at the time of their enlistment, either served to the credit of some other state in such army or navy, between April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and March eighteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, or served in such army or navy, having been mustered into the service of the United States at some time between May first and October first, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, while having a residence and actually living in this Commonwealth and while a member of one of the organizations of the volunteer militia, known as the Boston cadets, the Salem cadets, the eighth battery of light artillery, or company B of the seventh regiment of infantry; or who served in said navy, being one of the persons included in the list of officers, sailors and marines prepared by the adjutant general in accordance with chapter fifteen of the resolves of eighteen hundred and seventy-five and chapter eight of the resolves of eighteen hundred and eighty, having been appointed or mustered into and having served in the naval service of the United States while an actual resident of this Commonwealth; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during the Civil war, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army or navy, while a citizen of this Commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein;

Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this Commonwealth in the war with Spain, which for the purposes of this chapter is defined as having begun on February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and as having ended on August twelfth in said year; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during said war, having been appointed or having enlisted in said army while a citizen of this Commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein;

Soldiers or sailors who served in the army, navy, or marine corps of the United States in the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, provided they were residents of and actually residing in the Commonwealth at the time of their enlistment or appointment in the service, having been appointed or having enlisted in the army, navy or marine corps after August twelfth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom.

Soldiers mustered into the military service of the United States as part of the quota of this Commonwealth called for service on the Mexican Border in nineteen hundred and sixteen, and who are in receipt of pension or compensation from the United States for disability or illness incurred in such service, which for the purpose of this chapter shall be deemed to have begun on June nineteenth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and as having ended on February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, having been mustered into such service while an inhabitant of a town in this Commonwealth and actually residing therein;

Any soldier, sailor or nurse who served in the army or navy of the United States in the World war, which for the purposes of this chapter shall be defined as having begun on February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and as having ended on November eleventh, nineteen hundred and eighteen: provided, that such soldier, sailor or nurse receives a pension or compensation from the United States for disability incurred in such service, and was mustered into such service while an inhabitant of a town in the Commonwealth and actually residing therein.

Second Class, dependent relatives of invalid pensioners and of soldiers or sailors who served in the manner and under the limitations described for such service under class one who did not die in the service above defined and who were honorably discharged therefrom, as follows:

The wives and widowed mothers of invalid pensioners who served in the Civil

war, and the widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors dying in such service or after honorable discharge therefrom;

The widows and widowed mothers of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition dying in such service or dying after their honorable discharge therefrom, or dying while in receipt of a pension from the United States or of State Aid from the Commonwealth, and the wife and widowed mother of any invalid pensioner of the Spanish war, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition service;

The widow and children under sixteen years of any person who incurred disability during service on the Mexican Border as defined in class one and has died from such disability, either while in the service or after an honorable discharge therefrom; provided, that only such children whose birth occurred prior to said discharge or to January first, nineteen hundred and eighteen, may receive such State Aid;

The dependent widow, dependent widowed mother and dependent children up to the age of sixteen of any soldier, sailor or nurse who died while in such service during the World war as defined in class one, or who shall die after an honorable discharge from all enlistments or appointments in such service, or any child dependent by reason of physical or mental incapacity, provided the children were in being prior to his discharge or prior to the termination of said war as herein defined, or any person who stood to him in the relationship of a parent for five years prior to such service.

There shall also be included in this class the crippled or otherwise helpless children, whether minors or adults, of soldiers or sailors who served in either the Civil war or the war with Spain; provided, that such children are in receipt of a pension from the United States.

Third Class, dependent wives, and children up to sixteen years, widows and widowed mothers of soldiers, sailors and nurses, entitled to State Aid as defined in class one, who appear on the rolls of their regiments or companies in the office of the adjutant general to be missing or to have been captured by the enemy, and who were not exchanged and have not returned from captivity, and whom the town officers granting such aid have good reason to believe to be dead.

Fourth Class, Fathers or Mothers, the fathers being alive, of soldiers or sailors who served in the war with Spain, in the manner and under the limitations described for the service of said invalid pensioners, and who died in such service, if such parents were receiving aid May eighteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine.

Fathers or mothers, the fathers being alive, of soldiers or sailors who served in the World war, in the same manner and under the same limitations described herein for the service of said soldiers or sailors, and who died in such service, if such parents had been in receipt of state war allowance under chapter one hundred and eight of the General Acts of nineteen hundred and eighteen between February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and November eleventh, nineteen hundred and eighteen. No aid shall be granted to persons in this class unless in each case the aldermen, selectmen, or, in Boston, the Soldiers' Relief commissioner, are satisfied, on evidence first reported to the commissioner and satisfactory to him, that justice and necessity require a continuance of the aid to prevent actual suffering.

Fifth Class, women who served not less than three months as nurses in the army hospitals of the United States between April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-one, and September first, eighteen hundred and sixty-five, or who served not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals of the United States between February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and April twelfth, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, or who served in the World war for not less than three months as nurses in the army or navy hospitals between February third, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and November eleventh, nineteen hundred and eighteen, and who for three consecutive years next prior to the date of application for aid, shall have been actually resident in the Commonwealth, and who shall not be in receipt of an annuity from the Commonwealth, if the municipal authorities are satisfied, on evidence first reported to and found satisfactory by the commissioner, that the service was actually rendered and that justice and necessity require the granting of aid. The amount of such aid and its duration shall be determined by the commissioner. *Approved May 14, 1924.*

PERSONNEL.

Our field examiners have made 7,828 house calls and submitted reports relative to the physical and financial conditions of the parties interviewed. In addition to the above our agents have visited 800 applicants receiving treatment in the various hospitals, and beside making out their reports have executed various papers and prepared applications in 150 of these cases in order to expedite the adjudication of their claims.

Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his assistant, Dr. Donald E. Currier, have given us very thorough medical reports in the physical examinations of applicants for Military Aid who based their claims on their being unable to earn their support by reason of disabilities. These medical examinations have proved to be a great saving to the Commonwealth and a source of profit to the claimants who many times get a better understanding of their physical ailments and how they can best overcome them.

SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Under that part of the provisions of Chapter 115, General Laws, Sections 17 and 18, concerning the matter of grievances of veterans and their dependents, which grants a right of appeal to the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions and obliges him to cause an investigation to be made to determine the rights of the aggrieved party when denied Soldiers' Relief, we had approximately 200 appeals, which necessitated considerable investigation as to the legality of the claims and as to the particular jurisdiction that should properly assume the financial responsibility of the Soldiers' Relief necessary to be paid. We have endeavored to deal justly with the claimants and the municipalities in these appeals, and from the results obtained it would seem that our efforts and decisions have been satisfactory to all concerned. As there appears to be considerable difference of opinion among municipal authorities in the matter of determination of legal settlements of World war veterans and their dependents as to whether the provisions of Section 5, Chapter 116, General Laws, apply in the same manner as in Civil and Spanish war cases, I therefore recommend legislation that will place all war veterans and their dependents on the same basis in the matter of determination and continuance of legal settlements.

PENSION DEPARTMENT.

I herewith submit a brief summary of the work performed in the Pension Department during the year 1924.

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), original	11
Soldiers (General Law), increase	4
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil war, original	3
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil war, increase	274
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian wars	8
Soldiers (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish war, original	616
Soldiers (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish war, increase	202
Nurses (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish war	1
Widows (General Law)	1
Widows (Act May 1, 1920), Civil war	159
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian wars	6
Widows (Act Sept. 1, 1922), Spanish war	90
Widows (Accrued pension)	6
Wives (Act March 3, 1899), one-half pension	5
Mothers	3
Fathers	8
Helpless Children	2
Guardians' Claims	14
Reimbursement	57
Unendorsed checks	3
New pension certificates	1
Certificates in lieu of discharge	1

Total 1,475

Number of claims allowed	839
Number of claims rejected	504

There were no new pension laws enacted during the year 1924, but a large number of claims under the laws now in force were received. The clerical work in this department has increased very materially owing to the number of applications and affidavits made out for claimants by the clerks. The U. S. Pension Commissioner has called for a physician's affidavit in all veterans' claims, and these have to be copied for our files before being forwarded to the U. S. Pension Department, Washington, D. C. The number of inquiries made by letter and verbally also steadily grows larger.

Many of the Civil war veterans have availed themselves of the provisions of Section 2 of the Act of May 1, 1920, which reads as follows:

That every person who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil war, and who has been honorably discharged therefrom, or who, having so served less than ninety days, was discharged for a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, or is now upon the pension rolls as a Civil war veteran, and every person who served sixty days or more in the War with Mexico, or on the coasts or frontier thereof, or en route thereto, during the war with that nation, and was honorably discharged therefrom, and who is now, or hereafter may become, by reason of age and physical or mental disabilities, helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to require the personal aid and attendance of another person, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$72 per month.

The U. S. Pension Bureau requires the veteran to make application for the \$72.00 rating, and he must furnish satisfactory evidence to prove that he has required the constant care and attendance of another person from a certain date. This date governs the date of commencement of the increase; that is, the increase may be allowed as far back as May 1, 1920 — the date of the passage of the Act — if the evidence of helplessness is convincing.

Spanish War claims have been coming in steadily during the year and have averaged sixty-five each month. The veterans are required to furnish medical evidence of disability and must also go before a Board of Examining Surgeons to prove disability warranting allowance of pension. The rates are from \$12.00 to \$30.00 per month according to the degree of inability to earn a support.

Arrangements have been perfected during the past year whereby veterans of all wars may receive treatment in Government hospitals. Prior to the passage of the Langley Bill, only World war veterans were eligible for such treatment. It is not likely that Civil war veterans will take advantage of this, as the rate of pension they now receive enables most of them to be cared for in their homes. Veterans of the Spanish war, the Philippine Insurrection and the China Relief Expedition, however, who are suffering from mental or tubercular ailments, may enter a U. S. military or naval hospital located in a climate most beneficial for their recovery, where they will receive proper treatment for their disability. Some of the hospitals for the treatment of tuberculosis are located in Palo Alto, Cal., Greenville, S. C., Alexandria, La., Prescott, Arizona, Fort Bayard, New Mexico, and New Haven, Conn. There are other hospitals devoted entirely to the treatment of mental diseases, and general hospitals where patients may be received for diagnosis, to be transferred later to one of the hospitals specializing in their particular ailment. It is not necessary to prove that the ailment to be treated is the result of the veteran's service. An honorable discharge, a certificate from the Commissioner of Pensions or other method of proving his eligibility for treatment may be employed.

The work of this department has been greatly facilitated by the co-operation of the U. S. Pension Bureau, Washington, D. C., and thanks are due the Honorable Washington Gardner, U. S. Pension Commissioner, and his office staff, for their courtesy.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1926



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions,
State House, Boston, January 7, 1927.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I submit herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the matter pertaining to State and Military Aid and Burials being for the year 1925, and that part relating to pensions covering the year 1926.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Expenditures on account of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and also on account of burials of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, Indian Campaigns, Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their wives, widows, and dependent mothers, and Army Nurses, were made by 318 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1925, reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1926, as follows:—

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$214,705.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, war with Spain	13,146.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	792.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service	5,439.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	2,565.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, war with Spain	8,745.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	1,627.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	935.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	39,885.05
Burial Expenses of soldiers and their dependents	6,983.78

Total for 1925\$294,823.83

The decrease in the amount paid to veterans and their dependents is brought about mostly by the decease of the veterans and widows of the Civil War. The steady decrease noted annually in Civil War cases must be expected owing to the passing away of many widows and veterans of the war of 1861—1865. The increase of pensions to soldiers of the Civil and Spanish Wars and their dependents has, in many cases, made it possible to reduce the amounts paid as State and Military Aid, but in the majority of such cases we found it unwise to resort to any reduction, especially if the recipients required constant home care, or much medical attention.

It is a pleasure for me to be permitted once again to testify to the excellent co-operation we receive from both the Central Office of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau, Washington, D. C., and the local office in Boston. In the investigation of the merit of Military Aid claims, the advice of the Chief Surgeons of the U. S. Naval Hospital and the U. S. Veterans' Hospital in West Roxbury, as well as the Home Service Section of the American Red Cross in the various Government Hospitals in the State, has been of the greatest help to us in reaching proper decisions in Military Aid claims.

The Headquarters of the various veterans' organizations in the State House have given us excellent support in the way of helping us to give the best service possible to veterans and those depending on them.

State Aid.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1925, was 3474, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 836; decrease, 199.

Wives, 18; decrease, 4.

Widows, 2598; decrease, 309.

Children, 22; increase, 2.

Total, 3474.

Net decrease of recipients during 1925, 510.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$61.80+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1925, was 216, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 26; increase, 1.

Wives, 2.

Widows, 159; increase, 3.

Mothers, 28; decrease, 5.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 216.

Net decrease of recipients during 1925, 1.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.86+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1925, was 19, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 6.

Widows, 11; increase, 1.

Mothers, 2; increase, 1.

Total, 19.

Net increase of recipients during 1925, 2.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$41.68+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1925, was 92, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 4; increase, 1.

Widows, 45; increase, 17.

Mothers, 16; increase, 2.

Fathers, 1.

Children, 25; increase, 12.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 92.

Net increase of recipients during 1925, 32.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$59.11+.

Military Aid.

Military Aid to the amount of \$53,758.05, a decrease of \$11,983.40 from 1924, was disbursed as follows:—

Civil War soldiers, 32; decrease, 8.

Spanish War soldiers, 91; decrease, 11.

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 14; decrease, 1.

Mexican Border Service soldiers, 7; decrease, 1.

German War soldiers, 481; decrease, 23.

German War army nurses, 2.

German War Yeoman F., 1; increase, 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2\$2,565.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$80.17+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2\$8,690.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.55+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4 \$55.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$55.

PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2\$1,627.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$116.25.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2\$935.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$133.57+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2\$39,885.05

Average cost to State per person aided, \$82.40+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

Total\$53,758.05

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines, their Wives, Widows and Dependent Mothers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 262 and 266, Acts of 1924, and Chapter 115, Acts of 1926.

The burial law provides for the payment of an amount not to exceed \$60.00 for the burial or funeral expenses in the cases of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish wars, the Indian Campaigns, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border service and the war with Germany, and their wives, widows and dependent mothers, and army nurses, who die without leaving ample means to defray their funeral expenses, on condition, however, that the total expense of the burial by whomsoever incurred does not exceed \$160.00.

During the year 1925, 119 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$6,983.78, classified as follows:—

Civil War:—

Soldiers, 47; increase, 25.

Wives, 2; increase, 1.

Widows, 47; increase, 10.

Mothers, 2; increase, 2.

Total, 98.

Spanish War:—

Soldiers, 8; increase, 5.

Wives, 0; decrease, 1.

Widows, 1; increase, 1.

Mothers, 1; increase, 1.

Total, 10.

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers, 3; increase, 3.

Mothers, 1; increase, 1.

Total, 4.

German War:—

Soldiers, 7; decrease, 5.

Total, 7.

Net increase during 1925, 43.

Average burial cost to State per person, \$58.68+.

The Burial Law was amended by Chapter 155, Acts of 1926, so as to include dependent fathers of veterans in its provisions. I deem it advisable to print the act for the guidance of Burial Agents.

[CHAP. 155.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE BURIAL OF DEPENDENT FATHERS OF CERTAIN
VETERANS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section nineteen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by chapter two hundred and sixty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-four, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "dependent" in the eighteenth line the words:—father or,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 19.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the overseers of the poor or be employed by them, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner,

cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or in the Indian campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent father or mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow, in receipt of a pension under the act of congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to January first, nineteen hundred and ten; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from such service. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

Approved March 26, 1926.

Total Payments of State Aid.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1925, were		\$49,738,946 87
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1925, paid in 1926		294,823 83
		\$50,033,770 70
Less refunds on account of payments of previous years		1,580 60
		\$50,032,190 10
Special laws, 1926		
Soldiers' Home, 1926		190,000 00
Total November 30, 1926		\$50,222,190 10

Bounties and Gratuities.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the Civil War to date		\$17,872,859 82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Chap. 702; Acts 1913, Chapters 105 and 443)	572,000 00	
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Chapters 283 and 342)	18,485,009 20	36,929,869 02
Total November 30, 1926		\$87,152,059 12

In the determination of legal settlements of civilians and veterans, Section 5 of Chapter 116, as amended, seemed capable of different interpretations and conclusions, and to avoid such confusion it was thought best to strike out

said Section 5 and draft a new section to clarify the settlement law. See Chapter 292, Acts of 1926.

[CHAP. 292.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO SETTLEMENTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Chapter one hundred and sixteen of the General Laws, as amended in section five by chapter four hundred and seventy-nine of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-two and by chapter thirty-four of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-five, is hereby further amended by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 5.* Except as otherwise provided in this section, each settlement existing on August twelfth, nineteen hundred and eleven, shall continue in force until defeated under this chapter, but from and after said date failure for five consecutive years by a person, after reaching twenty-one years of age, to reside in a town where he had a settlement, shall defeat a settlement acquired under clause First of section one, or a settlement of a woman acquired under clause Second of said section one provided the settlement of her husband is defeated. The settlement of a minor acquired under either clause Third or Fourth of section one, except the settlement of a female minor who has married, shall be defeated with the settlement of the parents. The time during which a person shall be an inmate of any almshouse, jail, prison, or other public or state institution, within the commonwealth or in any manner under its care and direction, or that of an officer thereof, or of a soldiers' or sailors' home whether within or without the commonwealth, shall not be counted in computing the time either for acquiring or defeating a settlement, except as provided in section two. The settlement existing on August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, or any settlement subsequently acquired, of a person whose service in or with the army, navy or marine corps of the United States qualifies him to receive aid or relief under the provisions of chapter one hundred and fifteen, and the settlement of his wife, widow until she remarries, father or mother, qualified by his service to receive relief under said chapter one hundred and fifteen, shall not be defeated, except by failure to reside in the commonwealth for five consecutive years or by the acquisition of a new settlement.

Approved April 30, 1926.

I also deem it advisable to print Chapter 301, Acts of 1926, aiming to grant to veterans who enlisted between February 15, 1898, and July 4, 1902, for service in the Philippine Insurrection, the right to receive State and Military Aid, whether or not they actually served in the Philippine Islands or waters adjacent thereto.

[CHAP. 301.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FURNISHING OF STATE OR MILITARY AID TO THOSE WHO SERVED IN THE SPANISH WAR, PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION OR THE CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

Section six of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by sections one and two of chapter two hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one and by chapter three hundred and fifty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-four, is hereby further amended by striking out the paragraphs included in lines forty-five to sixty-two, inclusive, and inserting in place thereof the following new paragraph:—Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth in the war with Spain, having been appointed or having enlisted in such service after February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during said war or in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States in the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, having been appointed or having enlisted in such service between

said dates while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein.

(The foregoing was laid before the governor on the twenty-sixth day of April, 1926, and after five days it had "the force of a law", as prescribed by the constitution, as it was not returned by him with his objections thereto within that time.)

SOLDIERS' RELIEF

During the past year we had 226 appeals from aggrieved parties relative to Soldiers' Relief payments. There is a provision in the Soldiers' Relief act which obliges the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions to investigate such cases and make a decision regarding the merits of the appeal. A substantial increase is noted in the number of these cases, which necessitated considerable investigation on the part of our Agents to establish proof of legal settlement and to convince municipal authorities as to the need of aid in many of these claims. It was our endeavor to treat these appeals with fairness to the aggrieved parties and the cities and towns paying relief, and it would seem that the decisions reached and the treatment recommended were satisfactory to all concerned.

PERSONNEL

Our Agents have made 7439 home visits to applicants and recipients of aid; 831 visits were made in the various Government hospitals, and pension and aid papers were executed by our Agents in 152 cases. We found 43 cases where the soldiers and widows were so disabled as to be unable to call at this office to have their pension papers properly executed. Our Agents attended to this work, and by helping the claimants to prosecute pension claims, relieved considerably the financial responsibility of the cities and towns in the matter of support. The Agents and the office force have given the best of service in the care of veterans and their dependents. I cannot speak too highly of the excellent work of Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his assistants. His examinations of the physical condition of Military Aid applicants have been a great saving to the State as well as a help to the veterans who come before him for medical survey. It would be impossible to treat such claims equitably were it not for the diagnoses of the cases by Col. Williams.

It is with sincere regret that I have to report the decease on November 25th last of Belle J. McKeon, Senior Pension Clerk in this Department. Miss McKeon was very thoroughly informed in the matter of pension laws and the prosecution of pension claims, and had been employed in this Department approximately 24 years. She was most courteous and painstaking and ever watchful of the interests of the veterans and their widows, and at all times rendered faithful and conscientious service to the Commonwealth.

PENSION DEPARTMENT

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending December 31, 1926:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), Original	17
Soldiers (General Law), Increase	8
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Increase	266
Soldiers (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War, Increase	62
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars	5
Soldiers (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish War, Original	199
Soldiers (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish War, Increase	113
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Original	508
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Increase	204
Nurses (Act June 5, 1920), Spanish War	1
Widows (General Law)	6
Widows (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War	131
Widows (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War	12
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars	4

Widows (Act Sept. 1, 1922), Spanish War	24
Widows (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	53
Widows (Accrued Pension)	10
Wives (Act March 3, 1899), One-half pension	3
Mothers	5
Helpless children	1
Guardians	15
Reimbursement	82
Unendorsed checks	13
New pension certificate	6
Certificate in lieu of discharge	2
Application for change of name	1
Total	1751
Number of claims allowed	918
Number of claims rejected	273

In addition to the above, we are often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed pension claims through other attorneys, and to advise as to the method of procedure in order to complete the cases, all of which does not appear in the above summary, or in our office records. This department is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors and their dependents, having a residence in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws are received from persons residing in other States, however, and prompt and careful attention is given every communication. We executed vouchers in cases where payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and also in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife.

Two important pension laws were passed during the year 1926, as follows:—

Act May 1, 1926—An Act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China relief expedition, to certain maimed soldiers, to certain widows, minor children, and helpless children of such soldiers and sailors, and to certain army nurses.

Act July 3, 1926—An Act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers, sailors, and marines of the Civil and Mexican Wars, and to certain widows of said soldiers, sailors, and marines, and to widows of the War of 1812, and Army nurses.

The increase of pension under the Act of May 1, 1926, was granted automatically in all cases in which the veteran was drawing a pension under the Act of June 5, 1920, to commence June 4, 1926, but where his pension was granted under other acts he is required to make application under the Act of May 1, 1926, in order to receive the benefits of the new law.

The increase of pension under the Act of July 3, 1926, was granted automatically in all cases where the veteran was in receipt of a pension of less than \$72 per month, to commence August 4, 1926.

The rate of pension to Civil War Army nurses is increased to \$50 per month commencing August 4, 1926.

The rate of pension to widows and remarried widows of the War of 1812 or the war with Mexico is increased to \$50 per month commencing August 4, 1926.

This act grants a pension of \$50 to any widow or remarried widow of any person who served in the Army, Navy or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War for 90 days or more and was honorably discharged from such service, or regardless of the length of service was discharged for or died of a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, such widow or remarried widow having been the wife of such soldier, sailor, or marine during the period of his service in said war. Title to the \$50 rate as to those now on the pension roll was determined upon receipt by the Pension Bureau of a written statement from the widow or remarried widow that she was the wife of the soldier, on whose service she is drawing pension, during the period of his service in the Civil War.

An important decision, favorable to certain Spanish War veterans, was handed down by the Pension Bureau. In the interpretation of the Act May 1, 1926, it is held by the Honorable Secretary of the Interior that a veteran of the War with Spain, Philippine Insurrection or China Relief Expedition has title to pension if he had an honorable discharge from one service and happened to be a deserter from another enlistment. Prior to the enactment of this law it was held that he must have an honorable discharge from all services in order to be eligible for a pension under the Act of June 5, 1920.

There has been a change in the law as to the payment of checks of deceased pensioners. Under this new law the issue of a check in payment of a pension for which the execution and submission of a voucher was not required shall constitute payment in the event of the death of the pensioner on or after the last day of the period covered by such check, and it shall not be canceled but shall become an asset of the estate of the deceased pensioner.

I deem it advisable to print these laws below.

Act May 1, 1926.

An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the China relief expedition, to certain maimed soldiers, to certain widows, minor children, and helpless children of such soldiers and sailors, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all persons who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the China relief expedition, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, or who, having served less than ninety days, were discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty, and who are now or who may hereafter be suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character not the result of their own vicious habits which so incapacitates them for the performance of manual labor as to render them unable to earn a support, shall, upon making due proof of the fact, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the list of invalid pensioners of the United States and be entitled to receive a pension not exceeding \$50 a month and not less than \$20 a month, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support, and in determining such inability each and every infirmity shall be duly considered and the aggregate of the disabilities shown shall be rated: *Provided*, That any such person who has reached the age of sixty-two years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$20 a month; in case such person has reached the age of sixty-eight years, \$30 a month; in case such person has reached the age of seventy-two years, \$40 a month; and in case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years, \$50 a month: *Provided further*, That all leaves of absence and furloughs under General Orders, Numbered 130, August 29, 1898, War Department, shall be included in determining the period of pensionable service: *Provided further*, That the provisions, limitations, and benefits of this section be, and hereby are, extended to and shall include any woman who served honorably as a nurse, chief nurse, or superintendent of the Nurse Corps under contract for ninety days or more between April 21, 1898, and February 2, 1901, inclusive, and to any such nurse, regardless of length of service, who was released from service before the expiration of ninety days because of disability contracted by her while in the service in line of duty.

SEC. 2. The widow of any officer or enlisted man who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the China relief expedition, between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, inclusive, service to be computed from date of enlistment to date of discharge, and that all leaves of absence and furloughs under General Orders, Numbered 130, August 29, 1898, War Department, shall be included in determining the period of pensionable service,

and was honorably discharged from such service, or, regardless of the length of service, was discharged for or died in service of a disability incurred in the service in line of duty, such widow having married such soldier, sailor, or marine prior to September 1, 1922, shall, upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his Army or Navy service, be placed upon the pension roll at the rate of \$30 a month during her widowhood. And this section shall apply to a former widow of any officer or enlisted man who rendered service as hereinbefore described and who was honorably discharged, or died in service due to disability or disease incurred in the service in line of duty, such widow having remarried either once or more after the death of the soldier, sailor, or marine, if it be shown that such subsequent or successive marriage has or have been dissolved, either by the death of the husband or husbands or by divorce on any ground except adultery on the part of the wife and any such former widow shall be entitled to and be paid a pension at the rate of \$30 a month, and any widow or former widow mentioned in this section shall also be paid \$6 a month for each child under sixteen years of age of such officer or enlisted man, and in case there be no widow or one not entitled to pension under any law granting additional pension to minor children the minor children under sixteen years of age of such officer or enlisted man shall be entitled to the pension herein provided for the widow and in the event of the death or remarriage of the widow or forfeiture of the widow's title to pension the pension shall continue from the date of such death, remarriage, or forfeiture to such child or children of such officer or enlisted man until the age of sixteen years: *Provided*, That in case a minor child is insane, idiotic, or otherwise mentally or physically helpless the pension shall continue during the life of such child, or during the period of such disability; and this proviso shall apply to all pensions heretofore granted or hereafter granted under this or any former statute: *Provided further*, That when a pension has been granted to an insane, idiotic, or otherwise helpless child, or to a child or children under the age of sixteen years, a widow or former widow shall not be entitled to a pension under this Act until the pension to such child or children terminates unless such child or children be a member or members of her family and cared for by her; and upon the granting of pension to such widow or former widow payment of pension to such child or children shall cease, and this proviso shall apply to all claims arising under this or any other law.

SEC. 3. Any soldier, sailor, or marine now on the pension roll or who may be hereafter entitled to a pension under the Act of June 5, 1920, or under that Act as amended by the Act of September 1, 1922, or under this Act on account of his service during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or China relief expedition, who is now or hereafter may become, on account of age or physical or mental disabilities, helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person, shall be given a rate of \$72 a month, provided such disabilities are not the result of his or her own vicious habits: *And provided further*, That no one while an inmate of the United States Soldiers' Home or of any national or State soldiers' home shall be paid more than \$50 per month under this Act.

SEC. 4. That the pension or increase at the rate of pension herein provided for, as to all persons whose names are now on the pension roll, or who are now in receipt of a pension under existing law, shall commence at the rates herein provided on the fourth day of the next month after the approval of this Act; except where otherwise herein provided; and as to persons whose names are not now on the pension roll, or who are not now in receipt of a pension under existing law, but who may be entitled to a pension under the provisions of this Act, such pensions shall commence from the date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions after the approval of this Act in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior; and the issue of a check in payment of a pension for which the execution and submission of a voucher was not required shall constitute payment in the event of the death of the pensioner on or after the last day of the period

covered by such check, and it shall not be canceled, but shall become an asset of the estate of the deceased pensioner.

SEC. 5. Nothing contained in this Act shall be held to affect or diminish the additional pension to those on the roll designated as "The Army and Navy Medal of Honor Roll," as provided by the Act of April 27, 1916, but any pension or increase of pension herein provided for shall be in addition thereto, and no pension heretofore granted under any Act, public or private, shall be reduced by anything contained in this Act.

SEC. 6. No claim agent, attorney, or other person shall contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for service in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting claims for the increase of pension provided for in this Act; and no more than the sum of \$10 shall be allowed for such service in other claims thereunder, which sum shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, otherwise contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for service in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under this Act, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of the pension allowed or due to such pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, shall, for each and every offense, be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 7. That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified and amended only so far and to the extent as herein specifically provided and stated.

Approved, May 1, 1926.

Act July 3, 1926.

An Act Granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers, sailors, and marines of the Civil and Mexican Wars, and to certain widows of said soldiers, sailors, and marines, and to widows of the War of 1812, and Army nurses, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every person who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War, and who has been honorably discharged therefrom, or who, having so served less than ninety days, was discharged for a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, and every person who served sixty days or more in the war with Mexico, or on the coasts or frontier thereof, or en route thereto, during the war with that nation, and was honorably discharged therefrom, and who is now in receipt of or entitled to receive, under existing law, a pension of less than \$72 per month, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$65 per month; that in case such person is now, or hereafter may become totally helpless or blind shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$90 per month.

SEC. 2. The widow or remarried widow of any person who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War for ninety days or more and was honorably discharged from such service, or regardless of the length of service was discharged for or died in service of a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, such widow or remarried widow having been the wife of such soldier, sailor, or marine during the period of his service in said war, she shall be paid \$50 a month.

SEC. 3. That the rate of pension for the widow of any person who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States in the War of 1812, or for sixty days or more in the war with Mexico, on the coasts or frontier thereof, or en route thereto, during the war with that nation, and was honorably discharged therefrom, shall be \$50 per month.

SEC. 4. All Army nurses of the Civil War whose names are now on the pension roll, or who are now entitled to pension under any existing law, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$50 per month.

SEC. 5. That the pension or increase in the rate of pension herein provided

for, as to all persons whose names are now on the pension roll, or who are now in receipt of a pension under existing law, shall commence at the rates herein provided on the fourth day of the next month after the approval of this Act; and as to persons whose names are not now on the pension roll, or who are not now in receipt of a pension under existing law, but who may be entitled to a pension under the provisions of this Act, such pensions shall commence from the date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions after the approval of this Act in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided*, That no one while an inmate of the United States Soldiers' Home, or of any National or State soldiers' home shall be entitled to, or be paid the increased rates provided in this Act; and the issue of a check in payment of a pension for which the execution and submission of a voucher was not required shall constitute payment in the event of the death of the pensioner on or after the last day of the period covered by such check, and it shall not be canceled, but shall become an asset of the estate of the deceased pensioner.

SEC. 6. That no claim agent, attorney, or other person shall contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting claims for the increase of pension provided for in this Act; and no more than the sum of \$10 shall be allowed for such services in other claims thereunder, which sum shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall directly or indirectly otherwise contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under this Act, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of the pension allowed or due to such pensioner or claimant under this Act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall for each and every such offense be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 7. That all acts and parts of acts in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified and amended only so far and to the extent as herein specifically provided and stated: *Provided*, That the provisions of this Act shall in no way, manner, or substance modify, limit, or impair the soldier, sailor, or marine's right and title to the rate of \$72 provided in the second section of the Act of May 1, 1920.

Approved, July 3, 1926.

The thanks of this department are due Hon. Winfield Scott, United States Commissioner of Pensions, Washington, D. C., and to his entire staff for the courteous attention given our claims, notwithstanding the great volume of work in the Pension Bureau due to the new pension legislation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

MASS.
DOCS.
COLL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1927



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions,
State House, Boston, January 5, 1928.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

Complying with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I have the honor to present to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part referring to State and Military Aid and Burials being for the year 1926, and that portion referring to pensions covering the year 1927.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

REPORT

State and Military Aid and Burial Expenses.

The expenditures on account of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burials of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, Indian Campaigns, Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their wives, widows, and dependent fathers and mothers, and army nurses, by 311 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1926,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1927,—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$184,408.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	13,848.50
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	1,107.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service	5,313.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	1,974.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	5,998.25
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	767.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	1,064.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	30,174.19
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	4,597.18
Total for 1926	\$249,252.12

The decrease in the amount paid for State and Military Aid in Civil War cases was to be expected by reason of the decease of so many soldiers and widows of that war. More generous pension legislation by Congress has also helped to reduce the amount that the State would have been obliged to grant in State and Military Aid.

The excellent spirit of co-operation that has existed in the past between this Department and the Central Office of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau at Washington, D. C., and their regional office in Boston continues, and contributes to a better understanding of individual cases that come before our respective Departments for consideration, and also safeguards the interests of the nation and state from those who would abuse their generosity.

The medical authorities of the U. S. Naval Hospital in Chelsea and the U. S. Veterans' Hospitals in West Roxbury and Rutland, and also the Home

Service sections of the American Red Cross in the different Government hospitals in this State, have given us excellent support in the determination of Military Aid cases under their care.

STATE AID.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1926, was 2965, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 640; decrease, 196.

Wives, 12; decrease, 6.

Widows, 2294; decrease, 304.

Children, 19; decrease, 3.

Total, 2965.

Net decrease of recipients during 1926, 509.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.19+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1926, was 232, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 42; increase, 16.

Wives, 1; decrease, 1.

Widows, 162; increase, 3.

Mothers, 26; decrease, 2.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 232.

Net increase of recipients during 1926, 16.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$59.69+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1926, was 23, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 9; increase, 3.

Widows, 12; increase, 1.

Mothers, 2.

Total, 23.

Net increase of recipients during 1926, 4.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$48.13+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1926, was 97, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 8; increase, 4.

Wives, 1; increase, 1.

Widows, 46; increase, 1.

Mothers, 13; decrease, 3.

Fathers, 1.

Children, 26; increase, 1.

Army nurses, 2; increase, 1.

Total, 97.

Net increase of recipients during 1926, 5.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$54.77+.

MILITARY AID.

Military Aid to the amount of \$39,978.44, a decrease of \$13,779.61 from 1925, was disbursed as follows:—

Civil War soldiers, 23; decrease, 9.

Spanish War soldiers, 82; decrease, 9.

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 12; decrease, 2.

Mexican Border Service soldiers, 11; increase, 4.

German War soldiers, 358; decrease, 123.

German War army nurses, 0; decrease, 2.

German War Yeoman F., 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$1,974.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$85.84+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.	
SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$5,918.25
Average cost to State per person aided, \$73.06+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	\$80.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$80.	
PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$767.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$63.91+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.	
MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$1,064.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.77+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.	
GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$30,174.19
Average cost to State per person aided, \$84.05+.	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.	
Total	\$39,978.44

Prior to the passage of Chapter 219, Acts of 1927, much difficulty was experienced in the adjudication of State and Military Aid cases in which the applicants based their claims on service in the Philippine Insurrection or China Relief Expedition by reason of the requirement of eligibility that the veterans must have actually served in these campaigns, which obliged this office to check their service records at the War Department, Washington, D. C., before passing on these claims. The above-designated chapter makes eligible any veteran who served during the period of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, whether or not he saw actual service in either of these campaigns. I deem it advisable to print the act for the guidance of municipal authorities.

[CHAP. 219.]

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE FURNISHING OF STATE OR MILITARY AID TO THOSE WHO SERVED DURING THE PERIOD OF THE SPANISH WAR, PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION OR CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION.

Section six of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by sections one and two of chapter two hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, by chapter three hundred and fifty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-four and by chapter three hundred and one of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-six, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "in" in the third line and after the word "in" the second time it occurs in the eighth line of the paragraph appearing in said chapter three hundred and one the words:—or during the period of,—so that said paragraph will read as follows:—Invalid pensioners of the United States who served in the army or navy of the United States to the credit of this commonwealth in or during the period of the war with Spain, having been appointed or having enlisted in such service after February fifteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two; or who served in the regular army or navy of the United States during said war or in the army, navy or marine corps of the United States in or during the period of the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, having been appointed or having enlisted in such service between said dates while a citizen of this commonwealth, having a residence and actually residing therein.

Approved April 6, 1927.

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows, Dependent Mothers and Fathers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 262 and 266, Acts of 1924, and Chapter 155, Acts of 1926, and Chapter 226, Acts of 1927.

During the year 1926, 86 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$4,597.18, classified as follows:—

Civil War:—

Soldiers, 34; decrease, 13.
Wives, 0; decrease, 2.
Widows, 34; decrease, 13.
Mothers, 0; decrease, 2.
Total, 68.

Spanish War:—

Soldiers, 13; increase, 5.
Wives, 0.
Widows, 0; decrease, 1.
Mothers, 1.
Total, 14.

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers, 2; decrease, 1.
Mothers, 0; decrease, 1.
Total, 2.

German War:—

Soldiers, 1; decrease, 6.
Total, 1.

Indian Campaigns:—

Soldiers, 1; increase, 1.

Net decrease during 1926, 33.

Average burial cost to State per person, \$53.45+.

The Burial Law was amended by Chapter 226, Acts of 1927, which increased the amount that may be granted by the State from \$60 to \$100, and also increased the maximum amount that may be expended for burial from \$100 to \$200. This act is printed below.

[CHAP. 226.]

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MAXIMUM CONTRIBUTION OF THE COMMONWEALTH TOWARD THE EXPENSE OF THE FUNERALS OF CERTAIN VETERANS, AND THE MAXIMUM EXPENSE OF SUCH FUNERALS, TOWARD WHICH THE COMMONWEALTH WILL CONTRIBUTE.

Section twenty of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by section sixty-eight of chapter three hundred and sixty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-three and by chapter two hundred and sixty-six of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-four, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the second line, the word "sixty" and inserting in place thereof the words:—one hundred,—and by striking out, in the fifth line, the words "one hundred and sixty" and inserting in place thereof the words:—two hundred,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 20.* The expense of a burial as aforesaid shall not exceed one hundred dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent causing the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed two hundred dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground used exclusively for the burial of the pauper dead, or in any part of any cemetery or burial ground so used. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the

funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier or sailor, the regiment, company, station, organization or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall be certified on oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the town expending the amount, within three months after the burial; and the commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as he finds have been paid, and reported according to the foregoing provisions, and shall transmit the certificate to the comptroller. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after the expenditures have been made.

Approved April 7, 1927.

TOTAL PAYMENTS OF STATE AID

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1926, were	\$50,222,190.10
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1926, paid in 1927	249,252.12
	\$50,471,442.22
Less refunds on account of payments of previous years	735.00
	\$50,470,707.22
Special Laws, 1927	
Soldiers' Home, 1927	219,570.56
Total November 30, 1927	\$50,690,277.78

BOUNTIES AND GRATUITIES

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in the Civil War to date	\$17,872,859.82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Ch. 702; Acts 1913, Chapters 105 and 443)	572,250.00
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Chapters 283 and 342)	18,502,609.68
Total November 30, 1927	\$87,637,997.28

SOLDIERS' RELIEF

The Soldiers' Relief law (see Chapter 115 of the General Laws, Sections 17 and 18) requires the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions to investigate appeals from aggrieved veterans or their dependents when the relief requested has been refused them by the cities or towns of settlement, or the amount granted is inadequate for their support. No part of the Soldiers' Relief paid out by cities or towns is reimbursed by the State. The city or town of settlement bears the whole expense. We have received 298 appeals, and in compliance with the law caused prompt investigations to be made. After due consideration of the merits of each case, it appears that our decisions have been satisfactory to all concerned.

Chapter 308, Acts of 1927, amended the Soldiers' Relief law by further extending its provisions to include children over 16 years, and up to the age of 18 years when such children attend school or are incapacitated for work. Said chapter still further extended the provisions of the Soldiers' Relief law to include the widow and children of a World War veteran, if said veteran was an actual resident of this Commonwealth at the time of his decease but

had not gained a legal settlement in his own right, and further provided that his widow had acquired a legal settlement, and has not remarried.

For the information of municipal authorities this Act is printed below.

[CHAP. 308.]

AN ACT AUTHORIZING SOLDIERS' RELIEF FOR CERTAIN PERSONS.

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section seventeen and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 17.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes from any cause, except his own criminal or wilful misconduct, poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under sixteen years of age or for a dependent father or mother, or if such person dies leaving a widow or minor children under sixteen years of age, or minor children over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, if he served in the war of the rebellion, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between said dates, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, or if he served in the world war and at the time of his decease was a legal resident of this commonwealth, his widow, who has a legal settlement and who has not remarried, and his minor children under sixteen years of age, and those over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an almshouse or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect.

If an applicant for military aid or soldiers' relief has a settlement outside of the town where the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner.

This section shall also apply to army nurses who served in the army hospitals of the United States during the civil war and are entitled to state aid under section six and to army nurses and their dependents as specified herein who served in the army, navy or marine corps during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or during the world war.

Approved April 26, 1927.

PERSONNEL

Our office force and field investigators have worked faithfully and intelligently in the interest of veterans and their dependents. Our Agents made 7660 visits to applicants and beneficiaries, 6700 of which were house calls; 626 applicants were visited at various Government hospitals in the State; 298 Soldiers' Relief appeals were received from aggrieved parties, the majority of which required considerable investigation; 36 claims for pension

were executed at the homes of soldiers and widows who were physically unable to call at this office; and 155 Military Aid application blanks were executed in U. S. Veterans' Hospitals for veteran patients whose city or town of legal settlement was far removed from Boston, thereby expediting the applicants' claims as well as saving the municipalities concerned both time and expense of travel to complete these cases.

Colonel Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, with his assistants, is continuing the same excellent service in safeguarding the Commonwealth that he has rendered in the past relative to physical examinations of veterans applying for Military Aid, or seeking admission to our State Soldiers' Home.

PENSION DEPARTMENT

The following is a statement in detail of the pension work of this office for the year ending December 31, 1927:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), Original	27
Soldiers (General Law), Increase	14
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Increase	58
Soldiers (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War, Increase	19
Soldiers (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars	3
Soldiers (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars	59
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Original	565
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Increase	361
Nurses (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	2
Widows (General Law)	3
Widows (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War	107
Widows (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War	5
Widows (Act March 4, 1917), Indian Wars	2
Widows (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars	30
Widows (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	75
Widows (Accrued Pension)	4
Wives (Act March 3, 1899) One-half pension	6
Mothers	6
Fathers	2
Helpless children	1
Guardians	12
Reimbursement	60
Unendorsed checks	20
New pension certificate	2
Certificate in lieu of lost discharge	8
Arrears of pay	2
Total	1453
Number of claims allowed	987
Number of claims rejected	474
Amount collected	\$187,048.74

In addition to the above, we are often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed pension claims through other attorneys, and to advise as to the method of procedure in order to complete the cases, all of which does not appear in the above summary, or in our office records. This department is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors and their dependents having a residence in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws are received from persons residing in other States, however, and prompt and careful attention is given every communication. We executed vouchers in cases where payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and also in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife. These vouchers are executed on or after

the fourth of each month. A number of Civil war claims for increase of pension to \$90 per month have been received. In cases where the pensioner is in receipt of \$72 per month no formal application is required, but a request for the \$90 rate accompanied by medical evidence showing that the claimant is totally helpless must be forwarded to the Pension Bureau. In relation to the above, the words "totally helpless" mean inability to feed oneself, to sit up, put on or off a garment, or walk at all; in short, a bedridden or equally disabling condition. There is no expense to the claimants for prosecution of claims, blanks or postage.

ACT OF MARCH 3, 1927

The only pension legislation enacted by Congress during the last year was the increasing of pensions to survivors of the Indian Wars, their widows, and minor children under the Act of March 3, 1927.

The act of March 3, 1927, grants pension to any person who served thirty days or more in any military organization, whether such person was regularly mustered into the service of the United States or not, but whose service was under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any State or Territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with, or in the zone of any Indian hostilities in any of the States or Territories of the United States from January 1, 1817, to December 31, 1898, inclusive, and who is suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character not the result of his own vicious habits, which so incapacitate him for the performance of manual labor as to render him unable to earn a support. Rates range from \$20 to \$50 per month proportionate to the degree of inability to earn a support, and pension commences from the date of filing of the application in the Bureau of Pensions, after the passage of this act, upon proof that the disability or disabilities then existed, and continues during the existence thereof.

Any person above referred to who has reached the age of sixty-two years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$20 per month; in case such person has reached the age of sixty-eight years, \$30 per month; in case such person has reached the age of seventy-two years, \$40 per month; and in case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years, \$50 per month.

I deem it advisable to print this law below.

AN ACT GRANTING PENSIONS TO CERTAIN SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN THE INDIAN WARS FROM 1817 TO 1898, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That any person who served thirty days or more in any military organization, whether such person was regularly mustered into the service of the United States or not, but whose service was under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any State or Territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with, or in the zone of any active Indian hostilities in any of the States or Territories of the United States from January 1, 1817, to December 31, 1898, inclusive, and who is now or who may hereafter be suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character, not the result of his own vicious habits, which so incapacitate him for the performance of manual labor as to render him unable to earn a support, shall, upon making due proof of the fact, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the pension roll of the United States and be entitled to receive pension not exceeding \$50 per month and not less than \$20 per month, proportionate to the degree of inability to earn a support; and in determining such inability each and every infirmity shall be duly considered and the aggregate of the disabilities shown shall be rated, and such pension shall commence from the date of filing of the application in the Bureau of Pensions, after the passage of this act, upon proof that the disability or disabilities then existed, and shall continue during the existence thereof: *Pro-*

vided, That any such person who has reached the age of sixty-two years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$20 per month; in case such person has reached the age of sixty-eight years, \$30 per month; in case such person has reached the age of seventy-two years, \$40 per month; and in case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years, \$50 per month.

SEC. 2. If any person who rendered service as described in section 1 of this act or who died in service irrespective of length of service, has since died, or shall hereafter die, leaving a widow, or minor children under the age of sixteen years, such widow shall, upon due proof of her husband's death, without proving his death to be the result of his military service, be placed on the pension roll from the date of filing the application therefor under this act, at the rate of \$30 per month during her widowhood, and shall also be paid \$6 per month for each child of such person under sixteen years of age, and in case there be no widow, or one not entitled to pension, and in the event of the death, remarriage, or forfeiture of title of the widow, the child or children under sixteen years of age of the soldier shall be paid such pension until the age of sixteen years, said pension, if there be no widow entitled, to commence from the date of filing application therefor after the passage of this act, and in the event of the death, remarriage, or forfeiture of title by the widow the pension to continue to the minor children from the date of such death, remarriage, or forfeiture of title: *Provided*, That in case a minor child is insane, idiotic, or otherwise permanently helpless, the pension shall continue during the life of said child, or during the period of such disability, and such pension shall commence from the date of filing application therefor after the passage of this act: *Provided further*, That said widow shall have married said soldier prior to March 4, 1917, and this section shall apply to a former widow of any soldier who rendered service as hereinbefore described, such widow having remarried either once or more after the death of the soldier, if it be shown that such subsequent or successive marriage has or have been dissolved, either by the death of the husband or husbands or by divorce without fault on the part of the wife. Such pension shall commence from date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions after the passage of this act, and any such former widow shall be entitled to and be paid a pension at the rate of \$30 a month, and any former widow mentioned in this section shall also be paid \$6 a month for each child of the soldier under sixteen years of age: *Provided further*, That in case of any widow whose name has been dropped from the pension roll because of her remarriage, if the pension has been granted to an insane, idiotic, or otherwise helpless child, or to a child or children under the age of sixteen years, she shall not be entitled to a renewal of pension under any act until the pension to such child or children terminates, unless such child or children be a member or members of her family and cared for by her, and upon renewal of pension to such widow payment of pension to such child or children shall cease.

SEC. 3. The period of service performed by beneficiaries under this act shall be determined, first, by reports from the records of the War Department, where there are such records; second, by reports from the records of the General Accounting Office showing payment by the United States, where there is no record of regular enlistment, or muster into the United States military service; and third, when there is no record of service or payment for same in the War Department or the General Accounting Office by satisfactory evidence from muster rolls on file in the several State or Territorial archives; fourth where no record of service has been made in the War Department or General Accounting Office and there is no muster roll or pay roll on file in the several State or Territorial archives showing service of the applicant, or where the same has been destroyed by fire or otherwise lost, or where there are muster rolls or pay rolls on file in the several State or Territorial archives but the applicant's name does not appear thereon, the applicant may make proof of service by furnishing evidence satisfactory to the Commissioner of Pensions: *Provided*, That the want of a certificate of discharge shall not deprive any applicant of the benefits of this act.

SEC. 4. From and after the fourth day of the next month after the approval of this act the rate of pension to surviving soldiers of the various Indian wars and campaigns who are now on the pension roll or who may hereafter be placed thereon under the acts of July 27, 1892, June 27, 1902, and May 30, 1908, as amended by the act of February 19, 1913, or under the act of March 4, 1917, shall be \$30 per month if sixty-eight years of age, \$40 per month if seventy-two years of age, and \$50 per month if seventy-five years of age, and that the rate of pension to the widows who are now on the pension roll or who may hereafter be placed thereon under the said acts shall be \$30 per month; *Provided, however,* That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to reduce any pension under any law, public or private, and that hereafter pensions granted under the acts referred to in this section shall commence from the date of filing of application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions.

SEC. 5. No claim agent, attorney, or other person shall contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for service in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting claims for the increase of pension provided for in this act; and no more than the sum of \$10 shall be allowed for such service in other claims thereunder, which sum shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, otherwise contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for service in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under this act, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of the pension allowed or due to such pensioner or claimant under this act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall for each and every offense be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

Approved, March 3, 1927.

The thanks of this department are again due Hon. Winfield Scott, United States Commissioner of Pensions, and his entire office staff for promptness in replying to inquiries and for the many courtesies extended in the prosecution of pension claims.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1928.



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions,
State House, Boston, January 3, 1929.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I present herewith to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and Burials being for the year 1927, and that referring to pensions covering the year 1928.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

REPORT

State and Military Aid and Burial Expenses.

The expenditures on account of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burials of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, Indian Campaigns, Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their wives, widows, and dependent fathers and mothers, and army nurses, by 299 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1927,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1928,—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$156,844.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	14,007.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	1,360.50
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service	5,709.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	1,695.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	4,099.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	597.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	961.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	28,814.95
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	4,741.55
Total for 1927	\$218,829.50

STATE AID.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1927, was 2519, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 493; decrease, 147.
Wives, 9; decrease, 3.
Widows, 1999; decrease, 295.
Mothers, 1; increase, 1.
Children, 17; decrease, 2.
Total, 2519.

Net decrease of recipients during 1927, 446.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.26+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1927, was 219, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 43; increase, 1.
 Wives, 2; increase, 1.
 Widows, 144; decrease, 18.
 Mothers, 29; increase, 3.
 Army nurses, 1.
 Total, 219.

Net decrease of recipients during 1927, 13.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$63.95+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1927, was 28, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 12; increase, 3.
 Widows, 13; increase, 1.
 Mothers, 3; increase, 1.
 Total, 28.

Net increase of recipients during 1927, 5.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$48.58+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1927, was 101, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 9; increase, 1.
 Wives, 1.
 Widows, 50; increase, 4.
 Mothers, 11; decrease, 2.
 Fathers, 1.
 Children, 28; increase, 2.
 Army nurses, 1; decrease, 1.
 Total, 101.

Net increase of recipients during 1927, 4.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$56.52+.

MILITARY AID.

Military Aid to the amount of \$36,167.45, a decrease of \$3,810.99 from 1926, was disbursed as follows:—

Civil War soldiers, 14; decrease, 9.
 Spanish War soldiers, 54; decrease, 28.
 Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 12.
 Mexican Border Service soldiers, 8; decrease, 3.
 German War soldiers, 295; decrease, 63.
 German War army nurses, 0.
 German War Yeoman F., 0; decrease, 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 . . . \$1,695.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$121.07+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 . . . \$3,889.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$73.38+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4 . . . \$210.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$210.

PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 . . . \$597.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$49.75.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 . . . \$961.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$120.12+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 . . . \$28,814.95

Average cost to State per person aided, \$97.67+.

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4, none.

Total . . . \$36,167.45

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows, Dependent Mothers and Fathers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 262 and 266, Acts of 1924, and Chapter 155, Acts of 1926, and Chapter 226, Acts of 1927.

During the year 1927, 76 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$4,741.55, classified as follows:—

Civil War:—

Soldiers, 22; decrease, 12.

Wives, 2; increase, 2.

Widows, 46; increase, 12.

Total, 70.

Spanish War:—

Soldiers, 2; decrease, 11.

Wives, 1; increase, 1.

Widows, 0.

Mothers, 0; decrease, 1.

Total, 3.

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers, 0; decrease, 2.

Total, 0.

German War:—

Soldiers, 3; increase, 2.

Total, 3.

Indian Campaigns:—

Soldiers, 0; decrease, 1.

Net decrease during 1927, 10.

Average burial cost to State per person, \$62.38+.

This department continues to receive the same excellent co-operation from the U. S. Veterans' Bureau at Washington, D. C., and their regional office in Boston. There is no doubt of the great benefit this co-operation has been to the veterans and their dependents, and it also prevents an overlapping or duplication of work by our respective offices.

The medical and Home Service sections of the U. S. Naval Hospital in Chelsea, U. S. Veterans' Hospitals in West Roxbury, Rutland, Bedford and Northampton have been extremely helpful in the matter of medical advice and histories concerning applicants under their care seeking Military Aid and who are not in receipt of Government compensation.

TOTAL PAYMENTS OF STATE AID.

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1927, were		\$50,690,277.78
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1927, paid in 1928		218,811.50
		\$50,909,089.28
Less refunds on account of payments of previous years		366.00
		\$50,908,723.28
Special Laws, 1928		7,767.54
Soldiers' Home, 1928		190,000.00
Total November 30, 1928		\$51,106,490.82

BOUNTIES AND GRATUITIES.

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in Civil War to date	\$17,872,859.82	
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Ch. 702; Acts 1913, Chapters 105 and 443)	572,250.00	
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Chapters 283 and 342)	18 511,292.21	36,956,402.03
Total November 30, 1928		\$88,062,892.85

Prior to the passage of Chapter 255, Acts of 1928, World War widows were not eligible to receive State Aid unless they were married to their soldier husbands before July 1, 1919. It was found that many of these widows could not draw State Aid because they were married after that date. The above-designated chapter changed the date prior to which a World War widow must have been married to her soldier husband to be eligible from July 1, 1919, to January 1, 1928. Many worthy cases have been aided since the passage of this law, and are now enjoying its benefits. I deem it advisable to print this chapter below.

CHAP. 255.

AN ACT EXTENDING THE BENEFITS OF STATE AID TO CERTAIN WIDOWS OF WORLD WAR AND OTHER VETERANS.

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended in section seven by section three of chapter two hundred and twenty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-one, by chapter two hundred and twenty-nine of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-two and by chapter two hundred and eighty of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-four, is hereby further amended by striking out said section seven and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before April eleventh, nineteen hundred and fifteen, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight.

(The foregoing was laid before the governor on the seventeenth day of April, 1928, and after five days it had "the force of a law," as prescribed by the constitution, as it was not returned by him with his objections thereto within that time.)

Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, provides for the expenditure by the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions of interest on the so-called Unpaid Check Fund accruing from money that was reimbursed to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts by the Government as pay due under the Act of March 3, 1899, for the period from the date the soldier reported for duty and date of enrollment to date of muster into the Service for War with Spain. Approximately \$8000 of this money remains unexpended by reason of the fact that veterans eligible for same have died or were never acquainted with the transaction so that advantage could be taken of it. Up to the present time no demands have been made on this fund by veterans of the Spanish-American War. This, however, is probably due to the fact that our State and Military Aid and Soldiers' Relief laws function so well, and it is not likely that we will have many claims of an emergency nature. This act is printed below.

CHAP. 280.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE SPANISH AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF INTEREST ACCRUING ON SAID FUND TO THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

SECTION 1. So much of the principal of the Unpaid Check Fund, established as a result of the provisions of section one of chapter four hundred and eighty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and six, as represents the balance now on hand of the sum of eighty-eight hundred and twenty-six dollars and fifty cents originally deposited in said fund about December fifteenth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, and representing the unpaid balance of reimbursement to certain soldiers who served in the Spanish American war, is hereby diverted from said fund and made a separate fund, to be called the Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund.

SECTION 2. The fund established by the preceding section shall be safely invested by the state treasurer. All valid claims presented by persons entitled to any portion of such fund shall hereafter be paid by the said treasurer out of the principal thereof. The interest accruing on such fund shall be paid without special appropriation to the commissioner of state aid and pensions upon requisition by him, to be expended by him for the sole purpose of aiding worthy indigent veterans of the Spanish American war.

(The foregoing was laid before the governor on the twenty-sixth day of April, 1928, and after five days it had "the force of a law," as prescribed by the constitution, as it was not returned by him with his objections thereto within that time.)

PERSONNEL

On August 13, 1928, Rufus D. Kilgore, Civil War veteran and Investigator in this Department, was retired, at his own request, by reason of disability, under the provisions of Chapter 32, section 49, of the General Laws. Mr. Kilgore rendered faithful service to the Commonwealth.

Mr. George A. Hanna, a Spanish War veteran and Field Investigator in this office, was obliged, by reason of disability, to seek retirement under Chapter 32, section 56, of the General Laws, as amended by Chapter 26, Acts of 1922. The retirement took effect on September 23, 1928. Mr. Hanna was a conscientious employee, and gave the Commonwealth good and faithful service.

Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his office assistants, have continued the same excellent service that we have received from them in the past. The examinations of Military Aid applicants have given us the proper understanding as to the degree and nature of disabilities so as to enable us to reach proper decisions with reference to the amount of aid that should be paid in individual cases. Col. Williams' examinations have been of assistance in giving us a better knowledge of the ailments of Civil and Spanish War veterans seeking United States pensions, thereby enabling this Department to present the disability claims more clearly to the United States Pension Department.

Our Agents made 5,300 house calls on veterans and their dependents; 700 applicants were visited at Veterans' Hospitals within the State; 451 Soldiers' Relief appeals were received from aggrieved veterans and their dependents, and 40 visits were made at homes to execute pension papers where the veteran or the widow was physically unable to visit this office.

There has been a decided increase in the number of Soldiers' Relief appeals. Under the provisions of sections 17 and 18 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws, this Department is obliged to cause an investigation to be made and render a decision. Apparently our determinations in these cases have proved satisfactory.

PENSION DEPARTMENT

The following is a statement in detail of the pension work of this office for the year ending December 31, 1928:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), Original	29
Soldiers (General Law), Increase	11
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Original	1
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Increase	56
Soldiers (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War, Increase	18
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Original	494
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Increase	505
Nurses (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	1
Soldiers (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars	18
Widows (General Law).	14
Widows (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War	95
Widows (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War	2
Widows (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	76
Widows (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars	9
Widows (Accrued Pension)	15
Wives (Act March 3, 1899), One-half pension	5
Mothers	4
Helpless children	3
Guardians	12
Reimbursement	60
Unendorsed Checks	11
New pension certificate	1
Certificate in lieu of lost discharge	2
Application for change of name	2
Total	1444
Number of claims allowed	1101
Number of claims rejected	439
Amount collected	\$152,222.79

In addition to the above, we are often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed pension claims through other attorneys, and to advise as to the method of procedure in order to complete the cases, all of which does not appear in the above summary or in our office records. This department is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors and their dependents having a residence in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws are received from persons residing in other States, however, and prompt and careful attention is given every communication. We execute vouchers in cases where payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and also in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife. These vouchers are executed on or after the fourth of each month. A number of Civil War claims for increase of pension to \$90 per month have been received. In cases where the pensioner is in receipt of \$72 per month no formal application is required, but a request for the \$90 rate accompanied by medical evidence showing that the claimant is totally helpless or blind must be forwarded to the Pension Bureau. In relation to the above, the words "totally helpless" mean inability to feed oneself, to sit up, put on or take off a garment, or walk at all; in short, a bedridden or equally disabling condition. There is no expense to the claimants for prosecution of claims, blanks or postage.

The only pension legislation enacted by Congress during the last year was the Act of May 23, 1928, increasing pensions of widows of the civil war who had reached the age of seventy-five years from \$30 to \$40 per month. The above law has occasioned more than the usual number of inquiries concerning pensions during the year, necessitating much correspondence.

I deem it advisable to print a copy of this act which was approved May 23, 1928:—

AN ACT GRANTING PENSIONS AND INCREASE OF PENSIONS TO WIDOWS AND FORMER WIDOWS OF CERTAIN SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES OF THE CIVIL WAR, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the widow or former widow of any person who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War for ninety days or more, and was honorably discharged from all contracts of service, or regardless of the length of service was discharged for disability incurred in service and in the line of duty, such widow or former widow having been married to the soldier, sailor, or marine prior to the 27th day of June, 1905, who is now or may hereafter attain the age of 75 years and is pensioned as such widow or former widow under the general pension law, or whose name may hereafter be placed on the pension roll under existing laws, shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$40 a month, but nothing in this Act shall be construed as decreasing the rate of pension granted by any other Act.

SEC. 2. That the pension or increase of the rate of pension herein provided for, as to all persons whose names are now on the pension roll, or who are now in receipt of a pension under existing law, shall commence at the rate herein provided, on the fourth day of the month next after the approval of this Act; and as to persons whose names are not now on the pension roll, or who are not now in receipt of a pension under existing law but who may be entitled to a pension under the general pension laws, such pensions shall commence from the date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions after the approval of this Act in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided*, That the issue of a check in payment of a pension for which the execution and submission of a voucher was not required shall constitute payment in the event of the death of the pensioner on or after the last day of the period covered by such check, and it shall not be canceled, but shall become an asset of the estate of the deceased pensioner.

SEC. 3. That no claim agent, attorney or other person shall demand, receive or accept fees or compensation for the presentation or preparation of any such claim for increase in pension under this Act, or be recognized as agent or attorney in the prosecution or adjudication of a claim for increase under this Act, and any such person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, or wrongfully withholds from a pensioner the whole or any part of the pension allowed or due a pensioner under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every offense, be fined not to exceed \$500 or imprisonment not to exceed one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 4. That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified and amended only so far and to the extent herein specifically provided and stated. (*Approved, May 23, 1928.*)

The thanks of this department are again due Honorable Winfield Scott, United States Commissioner of Pensions, and his entire office staff for promptness in replying to inquiries and for the many courtesies extended in the prosecution of pension claims.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1929



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Office of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions,

State House, Boston, January 7, 1930.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, in conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1928, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1929.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,

Commissioner.

REPORT

State and Military Aid and Burial Expenses.

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burials of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, Indian Campaigns, Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their wives, widows, and dependent fathers and mothers, and army nurses, by 289 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1928,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1929,—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$133,819.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	14,256.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	2,202.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service	8,415.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	858.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	3,508.25
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	652.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	1,235.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	33,959.55
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	9,113.98
Total for 1928	\$208,019.78

STATE AID

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1928, was 2117, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 365; decrease, 128.
Wives, 6; decrease, 3.
Widows, 1726; decrease, 273.
Mothers, 0; decrease, 1.
Children, 20; increase, 3.
Total, 2117.

Net decrease of recipients during 1928, 402.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$63.21+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1928, was 235, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 60; increase, 17.

Wives, 3; increase, 1.

Widows, 143; decrease, 1.

Mothers, 28; decrease, 1.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 235.

Net increase of recipients during 1928, 16.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.66+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1928, was 41, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 20; increase, 8.

Widows, 15; increase, 2.

Mothers, 6; increase, 3.

Total, 41.

Net increase of recipients during 1928, 13.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$53.70+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1928, was 195, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 18; increase, 9.

Wives, 4; increase, 3.

Widows, 123; increase, 73.

Mothers, 10; decrease, 1.

Fathers, 1.

Children, 38; increase, 10.

Army nurses, 1.

Total, 195.

Net increase of recipients during 1928, 94.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$43.15+.

MILITARY AID

Military aid to the amount of \$40,213.30, an increase of \$4,045.85 from 1927, was disbursed as follows:—

Civil War soldiers, 7; decrease, 7.

Spanish War soldiers, 49; decrease, 5.

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 12.

Mexican Border Service soldiers, 9; increase, 1.

German War soldiers, 333; increase, 38.

German War army nurses, 1; increase, 1.

German War Yeoman F., 1; increase, 1.

German War, Electrician, F., 1; increase, 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 \$858.00

Average cost to State per person aided, 122.57+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.

SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 \$3,168.25

Average cost to State per person aided, \$66.00+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4 \$340.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$340.00.

PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 \$652.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$54.37+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.

MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 \$1,235.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$137.22+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.

GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 \$33,959.55

Average cost to State per person aided, \$101.07+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.

Total \$40,213.30

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows, Dependent Mothers and Fathers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 262 and 266, Acts of 1924, Chapter 155, Acts of 1926, and Chapter 226, Acts of 1927.

During the year 1928, 111 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$9,113.98, classified as follows:—

Civil War:—	Philippine Insurrection:—
Soldiers, 38; increase, 16.	Soldiers, 1; increase, 1.
Wives, 0; decrease, 2.	Total, 1.
Widows, 57; increase, 11.	German War:—
Total, 95.	Soldiers, 5; increase, 2.
Spanish War:—	Wives, 2; increase, 2.
Soldiers, 7; increase, 5.	Total, 7.
Wives, 0; decrease, 1.	Indian Campaigns:—
Widows, 0.	Soldiers, 1; increase, 1.
Mothers, 0.	Total, 1.
Total, 7.	

Net increase during 1928, 35.

Average burial cost to State per person, \$82.10+.

TOTAL PAYMENTS OF STATE AID

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1928, were.		\$51,106,490.82
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1928, paid in 1929		208,019.78
		\$51,314,510.60
Less refunds on account of payments of State and Military Aid and burials		1,007.00
		\$51,313,503.60
Special Laws:		
Chapter 127, Acts 1928, paid in 1929	\$5,795.63	
Chapter 340, Acts 1929	5,394.50	
Soldiers Home, 1929	\$208,000.00	219,190.13
Total November 30, 1929		\$51,532,693.73

BOUNTIES AND GRATUITIES

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in Civil War to date		\$17,872,859.82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Ch. 702; Acts 1913, Chapters 105 and 443)	572,250.00	
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Chapters 283 and 342)	18,517,016.99	\$36,962,126.81
Total November 30, 1929		\$88,494,820.54

Chapter 160, Acts of 1929, which went into effect June 26, 1929, amended the Soldiers' Relief law so as to make it possible for the veteran or his dependent to receive aid in the city or town of residence within the Commonwealth, when the place of legal settlement delayed unreasonably in granting the required assistance. The requirements of notice as set forth in Chapter

171, Acts of 1919, must be complied with, and the place of residence can pay only on the order of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions. There is nothing in the law, however, that prevents the place of residence from paying Soldiers' Relief to cases not legally settled in such place, if convenience or necessity requires it, provided that the city or town of legal settlement makes the necessary arrangements for payment and reimbursement.

This act is printed below.

CHAP. 160.

AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE PROMPT PAYMENT OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF IN CERTAIN CASES.

Section seventeen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by chapter three hundred and eight of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, is hereby further amended by striking out the second paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:—

If an applicant for military aid or soldiers' relief has a settlement outside of the town where the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner. If the town of settlement of an applicant for soldiers' relief unreasonably delays in aiding the applicant after receipt of said notice, the town of the applicant's residence shall forthwith grant such aid as the commissioner may order, and the town so granting such aid shall be reimbursed in full therefor by the town of the applicant's settlement. Any town official required to act on such order of the commissioner who refuses and neglects to comply therewith shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars. *Approved March 27, 1929.*

Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, makes provision for hospital or home care of needy Civil War veterans, their wives and widows. This law became operative August 22, 1929, and has already demonstrated the wisdom of its passage. While our State and Military Aid and Soldiers' Relief laws aim to give adequate support and care, it was often found that municipalities had not made ample provisions in their budget to care for extraordinary cases that necessitate considerable expense for support, nursing and medical treatment. This law arranges to have the application forwarded by the city or town of legal settlement, on special forms, to the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, and the amount authorized by the Commissioner is paid directly to the beneficiary from the office of the State Treasurer and Receiver General on an order from the State Comptroller. One-half of the expense is assessed the city or town of the beneficiary's settlement, to be paid to the State Treasurer at the same time as State taxes. The following is a table noting the class of beneficiaries and the amounts paid each month under the law:—

1929	Soldiers	Widows	Number of cases	Amount
September	2	20	22	\$ 866.50
October	4	42	46	2070.00
November	7	51	58	2458.00
December	10	60	70	3008.00

Total to date,	\$8402.50
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I deem it advisable to print below a copy of the law relating thereto.

CHAP. 340.

AN ACT TO PROVIDE HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE FOR NEEDY CIVIL WAR VETERANS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS.

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof, under the caption, "HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE", the following new section:—*Section 25.* The commissioner shall expend such sum as he deems necessary to provide special care in a hospital or at home for persons who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of

the rebellion and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, their wives and widows, who are in need of such care and who were legally settled in a town of this commonwealth on January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-nine. The amount expended by the commissioner under this section shall be paid from such appropriation as may be made for the purpose. One half of such expense shall be assessed, collected and paid over by the town of the beneficiary's settlement to the state treasurer in the same manner and at the same time as state taxes. The person charged with disbursing military aid or soldiers' relief in each town shall, within three days of receiving an application for relief under this section, notify the commissioner of such application upon blanks approved by him. Any person charged with such disbursement who refuses or unreasonably neglects to give notice required by this section within the time and substantially in the form herein required shall be punished by a fine of twenty-five dollars. (*Approved May 24, 1929.*)

With reference to Chapter 280 of the Acts of 1928, entitled the "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund", the amount of \$191.99 was expended in 1929, and there is \$141.02 now available from this fund. On February 1, 1930, there will be received by the State Treasurer \$170 to be added to this amount.

We are very much indebted to the U. S. Veterans' Bureau at Washington, D. C., and its Regional Office in Boston, for their ever ready and genuine co-operation. The benefits derived by the veterans and dependents from such co-operation are inestimable, and result in a genuine saving to the Commonwealth as well as a satisfaction to the beneficiaries.

PERSONNEL

It is with a great deal of regret that I have to report the decease on September 23rd last of Eugene D. Sanborn, Head Social Worker in this Department. Mr. Sanborn was the last survivor of the many Civil War veterans who served in this office. He was faithful and painstaking, and rendered excellent service to the Commonwealth as Agent and in the position he held at the time of his death.

Mr. Andrew Fyfe, a veteran of the World War and Social Worker in this office, was appointed to the position of Head Social Worker vice Eugene D. Sanborn deceased.

Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, with his office assistants, is continuing the same excellent service he has given us in the past relative to the physical examination of veterans of the various wars seeking military aid or admission to our State Soldiers' Home. He has also helped us by his professional advice in the cases of veterans applying for U. S. pensions, whose disabilities were difficult to diagnose or where they were unable to pay for a thorough medical examination in order to determine the disability alleged in their pension declarations.

We are receiving the same prompt and courteous service in all matters dealing with the medical and Home Service Sections of the U. S. Naval Hospital in Chelsea, and the U. S. Veterans' Hospitals at Rutland, Bedford, Northampton, which results in speedy action on claims where the applicants receiving treatment in the above hospitals have petitioned for Military Aid or Soldiers' Relief.

Our Agents made 4,066 house calls on veterans and their dependents; 516 applicants were visited at Veterans' Hospitals within the State; 258 Soldiers' Relief appeals received from aggrieved veterans and their dependents were investigated; 6 visits were made at homes to execute pension papers where the veteran or widow was physically unable to visit this office; 4 visits were made to complete burial claims, and 110 investigations were made relative to home or hospital care under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929.

PENSION DEPARTMENT

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending December 31, 1929:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), Original	31
Soldiers (General Law), Increase	26
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Increase	39
Soldiers (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War, Increase	19
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Original	412
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Increase	675
Soldiers (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars, Original	11
Soldiers (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars, Increase	9
Widows (General Law)	12
Widows (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War	83
Widows (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War	2
Widows (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	98
Widows (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars	7
Minors (General Law)	1
Wives (Act March 3, 1899), One-half Pension	5
Mothers	3
Fathers	1
Helpless children	1
Guardians	14
Reimbursement	63
Unendorsed checks	27
New pension certificate	1
Certificate in lieu of lost discharge	2
Application for change of name	1
Application for six months gratuity	1
Total	1544
Number of claims allowed	1075
Number of claims rejected	321
Amount collected	\$100,356.35

In addition to the above, we are often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed pension claims through other attorneys, and to advise as to the method of procedure in order to complete the cases, all of which does not appear in the above summary or in our office records. This department is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors, and their dependents having a residence in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws are received from persons residing in other States, however, and prompt and careful attention is given every communication. We execute vouchers in cases where payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and also in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife. These vouchers are executed on or after the fourth of each month. A number of Civil War claims for increase of pension to \$90 per month have been received. In cases where the pensioner is in receipt of \$72 per month no formal application is required, but a request for the \$90 rate accompanied by medical evidence showing that the claimant is totally helpless or blind must be forwarded to the Pension Bureau. In relation to the above, the words "totally helpless" mean inability to feed oneself, to sit up, put on or take off a garment, or walk at all; in short, a bed-ridden or equally disabling condition. There is no expense to the claimants for prosecution of claims, blanks or postage.

There has been no pension legislation during the year 1929 that has materially affected the duties of the office.

The thanks of this Department are due Colonel Winfield Scott, former United States Commissioner of Pensions, and his successor, Colonel Earl D. Church, and all their office staff for their hearty co-operation and painstaking attention given in the prosecution of claims filed.

The commissioner takes pleasure in acknowledging the courtesies extended to him and through him to the Commonwealth by the officials of the Pension Bureau at Washington, D. C., on the occasion of his visits during the year.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1930



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JANUARY 8, 1931.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, in conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1929, and that portion relating to pensions covering the year 1930.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES.

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burials of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, Indian Campaigns, Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and Army nurses, by 279 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1929,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1930,—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War . . .	\$113,266.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain . . .	13,635.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service . . .	2,988.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service . . .	14,847.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War . . .	479.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain . . .	2,670.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service . . .	931.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service . . .	1,644.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service . . .	41,349.82
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents . . .	9,748.21
Total for 1929	\$201,558.03

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1929, was 1,822, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 293; decrease, 72.

Wives, 5; decrease, 1.

Widows, 1,505; decrease, 221.

Children, 19; decrease, 1.

Total, 1,822.

Net decrease of recipients during 1929, 295.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$62.16+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1929, was 233, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 72; increase, 12.
Wives, 4; increase, 1.
Widows, 130; decrease, 13.
Mothers, 26; decrease, 2.
Army nurses, 1.
Total, 233.

Net decrease of recipients during 1929, 2.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$58.51+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service for 1929, was 57, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 25; increase, 5.
Widows, 25; increase, 10.
Mothers, 7; increase, 1.
Total, 57.

Net increase of recipients during 1929, 16.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$52.42+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1929, was 262, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, 20; increase, 2.
Wives, 3; decrease, 1.
Widows, 172; increase, 49.
Mothers, 20; increase, 10.
Fathers, 1.
Children, 45; increase, 7.
Army nurses, 1.
Total, 262.

Net increase of recipients during 1929, 67.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$56.66+.

Military Aid

Military aid to the amount of \$47,073.82, an increase of \$6,860.52 from 1928, was disbursed as follows:—

Civil War soldiers, 6; decrease, 1.
Spanish War soldiers, 36; decrease, 13.
Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 14; increase, 2.
Mexican Border Service soldiers, 10; increase, 1.
German War soldiers, 391; increase, 58.
German War army nurses, 0; decrease, 1.
German War Yeoman F., 0; decrease, 1.
German War, Electrician, F., 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$479.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$79.83+.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$2,340.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$66.62+.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4	330.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$330.00.	
PHILIPPINE SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$931.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$66.50.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$1,644.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$164.40.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$41,349.82
Average cost to State per person aided, \$105.48+.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
Total	\$47,073.82

Burial Expenses of Soldiers, Sailors and Marines, their Wives, Widows, Dependent Mothers and Fathers, and Army Nurses, under Sections 19 to 21, Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 262 and 266, Acts of 1924, Chapter 155, Acts of 1926, and Chapter 226, Acts of 1927.

During the year 1929, 113 claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$9,748.21, classified as follows:—

Civil War:—

Soldiers	28	Decrease	10
Wives	1	Increase	1
Widows	66	Increase	9
Total	95		

Spanish War:—

Soldiers	9	Increase	2
Mothers	2	Increase	2
Total	11		

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers	2	Increase	1
Total	2		

German War:—

Soldiers	4	Decrease	1
Wives	0	Decrease	2
Fathers	1	Increase	1
Total	5		

Indian Campaigns:—

Soldiers	0	Decrease	1
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Net increase during 1929, 2.

Average burial cost to State per person, \$86.26+.

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS.

The appropriation for the year 1930 under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, was \$48,000, and the following is a table of beneficiaries and the amounts paid from December 1, 1929, to November 30, 1930, inclusive:

	Soldiers	Widows	Number of Cases	Amount
December	11	69	80	\$3,583.00
January	10	74	84	3,725.50
February	13	76	89	3,604.50
March	13	76	89	3,571.00
April	12	79	91	3,495.00
May	14	90	104	4,560.65
June	12	86	98	3,919.84
July	12	92	104	4,346.00
August	10	99	109	4,397.65
September	9	97	106	4,393.60
October	8	95	103	4,168.92
November	9	99	108	4,219.83
				\$47,985.49

Total Payments of State Aid

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1929, were		\$51,532,693.73
Deduction on account of Chapter 340, Acts 1929		264.00
		\$51,532,429.73
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1929, paid in 1930		201,558.03
		\$51,733,987.76
Less State Aid refund on account of current year		10.00
		\$51,733,977.76
Less refunds on account of State and Military Aid and burials, payments of previous years		1,236.00
		\$51,732,741.76
Special Laws:		
Chapter 340, Acts 1929	\$47,985.49	
Soldiers' Home, 1930, expenses, Chapter 115, Acts 1930	250,000.00	
Chapter 115, Acts 1930, certain improvements, 1930	1,266.05	
		299,251.54
Total November 30, 1930		\$52,031,993.30

Bounties and Gratuities

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in Civil War to date	\$17,872,859.82	
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Ch. 702; Acts 1913, Ch. 105 and Ch. 443)	572,250.00	
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Ch. 283 and Ch. 342)	18,524,449.40	
Spanish American War service, 1930	32.80	
		36,969,592.02
Total November 30, 1930		\$89,001,585.32

STATE LEGISLATION OF 1930

Chapter 110, Acts of 1930, which went into effect on June 11, 1930, amended the Soldiers' Relief provisions of Chapter 115 of the General Laws. Prior to the passage of the above act, the widow and children, or a dependent father or mother of a deceased veteran were denied Soldiers' Relief if the veteran was a victim of his own criminal or wilful misconduct. Therefore the above-noted dependent relatives of a deceased veteran are now eligible to receive such Soldiers' Relief as may be necessary for their support from the place of legal settlement, regardless of the cause of death of the veteran. This act is printed below.

CHAPTER 110.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PAYMENT OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Section seventeen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by chapter three hundred and eight of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven and by chapter one hundred and sixty of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-nine, is hereby further amended by striking

out the first paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 17.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under sixteen years of age or for a dependent father or mother, unless such condition is the result of his own criminal or wilful misconduct, or if such person dies leaving a widow or minor children under sixteen years of age, or minor children over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement, and his said dependents, in the case of his death, shall not be deemed ineligible to receive said support by reason of criminal or wilful misconduct on his part at any time during his lifetime; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, if he served in the war of the rebellion, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between said dates, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, or if he served in the world war and at the time of his decease was a legal resident of this commonwealth, his widow, who has a legal settlement and who has not remarried, and his minor children under sixteen years of age, and those over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an infirmary or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect. (*Approved March 12, 1930.*)

Chapter 186, Acts of 1930, which became operative on July 5, 1930, increased the State Aid allowance granted to a veteran or his dependent from \$6 to \$10 a month individually, but not more than \$20 a month is allowed to any one veteran and his dependents. This substantial increase will in a large measure reduce the amount of Soldiers' Relief now being paid by municipalities, which will cause a steady increase of State Aid payments in the future, as veterans of the War with Germany become eligible to its benefits by being granted disability allowances from the United States Government.

I deem it advisable to print a copy of the above law, as follows:—

CHAPTER 186.

AN ACT INCREASING THE AMOUNT OF STATE AID PAYABLE TO CERTAIN VETERANS OR THEIR DEPENDENT RELATIVES, AND TO CERTAIN NURSES.

Section nine of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out, in the fourth and in the fifth line, the word "six" and inserting in place thereof in each instance the word:— ten, — and by striking out, in the sixth line, the word "twelve" and inserting in place thereof the word:— twenty, — so as to read as follows:—*Section 9.* No state aid shall be paid to or for a person of the first class as defined in section six exceeding in any one month three fourths of the monthly amount of his United States pension or compensation, nor exceeding ten dollars in any one month; or to or for a person of the second, third, fourth or fifth class

as defined in said section exceeding ten dollars in any one month; and no more than twenty dollars shall be paid to or for all dependent relatives of any one soldier or sailor in any one month. State aid shall not be paid to or for any soldier or sailor on account of service in the war with Spain, or to his dependent relatives, unless he enlisted or was appointed in the service of the United States after February fourteenth and prior to August twelfth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight; but it may be allowed to or for volunteers mustered into the service of the United States in Massachusetts regiments after said August twelfth but prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-nine, who shall otherwise be qualified to receive the same, and to or for their dependent relatives. (*Approved April 5, 1930.*)

Chapter 192, Acts of 1930, which became operative July 8, 1930, further amended the Soldiers' Relief law by bringing within its provisions children of veterans over 18 years if these children are in receipt of U. S. pension. I deem it advisable to print this act, as follows:—

CHAPTER 192.

AN ACT MAKING CERTAIN CHILDREN OF CERTAIN VETERANS ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended in section seventeen by chapter one hundred and ten of the acts of the current year, is hereby further amended by striking out said section seventeen and inserting in place thereof the following:— *Section 17.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife, or minor children under sixteen years of age or for a dependent father or mother, unless such condition is the result of his own criminal or wilful misconduct, or if such person dies leaving a widow or minor children under sixteen years of age, or minor children over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement, and his said dependents, in the case of his death, shall not be deemed ineligible to receive said support by reason of criminal or wilful misconduct on his part at any time during his lifetime; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, if he served in the war of the rebellion, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between said dates, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, or if he served in the world war and at the time of his decease was a legal resident of this commonwealth, his widow, who has a legal settlement and who has not remarried, and his minor children under sixteen years of age, and those over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Any crippled, blind or helpless child, whether a minor or adult, of a deceased person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, or in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, if such child is receiving a pension from the United States and is not otherwise eligible to receive relief under this section, shall also be eligible as aforesaid. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the di-

rection of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an infirmary or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect.

If an applicant for military aid or soldiers' relief has a settlement outside of the town where the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner. If the town of settlement of an applicant for soldiers' relief unreasonably delays in aiding the applicant after receipt of said notice, the town of the applicant's residence shall forthwith grant such aid as the commissioner may order, and the town so granting such aid shall be reimbursed in full therefor by the town of the applicant's settlement. Any town official required to act on such order of the commissioner who refuses and neglects to comply therewith shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars.

This section shall also apply to army nurses who served in the army hospitals of the United States during the civil war and are entitled to state aid under section six and to army nurses and their dependents as specified herein who served in the army, navy or marine corps during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or during the world war. (*Approved April 8, 1930.*)

Chapter 195, Acts of 1930, which took effect on its passage April 9, 1930, extended the benefits of the Military Aid law to Massachusetts veterans receiving treatment in the U. S. Naval Hospital, Newport, Rhode Island, on condition that they were hospitalized by the U. S. Veterans' Bureau. This act has been a departure from former procedure, which permitted the payment of such aid only to veterans actually located in Massachusetts. Since the World War, veterans of Massachusetts receiving treatment in Government hospitals within the State and not in receipt of Government compensation were paid \$15 a month on application to the city or town of their legal settlement with the approval of the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions. In view of the enactment of the above law, World War veterans of this State receiving treatment in the U. S. Naval Hospital, Newport, Rhode Island, are eligible to receive the above amount of Military Aid. Chapter 195, Acts of 1930, is printed below.

CHAPTER 195.

AN ACT MAKING CERTAIN MASSACHUSETTS VETERANS RECEIVING HOSPITAL TREATMENT OUTSIDE THE COMMONWEALTH ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE MILITARY AID.

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Be it enacted, etc., as follows:

No veteran, who is or shall be otherwise entitled to military aid under chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, shall lose his right thereto by reason of his absence from the commonwealth while receiving hospital treatment, under order of the United States Veterans' Bureau, at the United States Naval Hospital at Newport, Rhode Island. (*Approved April 9, 1930.*)

Chapter 233, Acts of 1930, amended Section 7 of Chapter 115 of the General Laws by extending the date prior to which widows of the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection and the China Relief Expedition must have been married to their soldier husbands to be eligible to receive State Aid, from April 11, 1915, to September 1, 1922. Widows of such veterans, who were married prior to September 1, 1922, may be paid State Aid if in need, provided that the veteran's service was to the credit of Massachusetts.

Section 2 of said Chapter 233 extended the date of marriage from January 1, 1910, to September 1, 1922, so that the provisions of the burial act may apply in the cases of such widows. The above class of widows is eligible to receive U. S. pension if married prior to September 1, 1922. The extension of the date of marriage eligibility referred to in Chapter 233 now agrees with the marriage date requirement of U. S. pension laws. Chapter 233 is printed below.

CHAPTER 233.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF WIVES AND WIDOWS OF CERTAIN VETERANS TO CERTAIN BENEFITS.

SECTION 1. Section seven of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter two hundred and fifty-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the seventh line, the words "April eleventh, nineteen hundred and fifteen" and inserting in place thereof the words:—September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight.

SECTION 2. Section nineteen of said chapter one hundred and fifteen, as most recently amended by chapter one hundred and fifty-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-six, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the fourth line, the words "overseers of the poor" and inserting in place thereof the words:—board of public welfare,—by striking out, in the fifth line, the word "them" and inserting in place thereof the words:—said board,— and by striking out, in the thirty-second and thirty-third lines, the words "January first, nineteen hundred and ten" and inserting in place thereof the words:—September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 19.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the board of public welfare or be employed by said board, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or in the Indian campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent father or mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow,

in receipt of a pension under the act of congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him prior to his final discharge from such service. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section. (*Approved April 18, 1930.*)

During the year 1930, \$151.50 was expended under Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled the "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund", leaving a balance of \$351.55 on December 1, 1930.

PERSONNEL

We are receiving excellent co-operation from the U. S. Veterans' Bureau at Washington and its Regional Office in Boston. At no time in our dealings with the above offices has there been a semblance of any attempt to pass the responsibility from any of their departments to this office when it was determined which agency should care for the case, thereby resulting in prompter and better service for the veteran and his dependents.

Col. Frank P. Williams, Chief Surgeon of the Commonwealth, and his office force, are giving us the same excellent service that it has been our pleasure to refer to in former reports in the matter of medical examinations of applicants for Military Aid, as well as medical advice in behalf of veterans as their various problems come before us.

The Chief Medical Officers and their assistants of the U. S. Naval Hospital at Chelsea and the U. S. Veterans' Hospitals located in Rutland, Bedford and Northampton, are extending us every help in these cases of veterans seeking military aid, or Soldiers' Relief for their families, while patients in the above hospitals and not recipients of Government compensation or allowance.

Our Agents made 5,492 calls during 1930, designated as follows: 317 veterans were visited at various Government hospitals; 150 Soldiers' Relief appeals from veterans and their dependents required considerable investigation in relation to their worthiness; 3 pension applications were made out at the claimants' homes; 3 burial claims required special investigation; 359 examinations of applicants for the benefit of Chapter 340 of the Acts of 1929, and 4,660 cases of applicants and recipients of State and Military Aid were investigated.

PENSION DEPARTMENT

The following is a statement in detail of the business of this office for the year ending December 31, 1930:—

Classification of Claims filed during the Year.

Soldiers (General Law), Original	32
Soldiers (General Law), Increase	18
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1920), Civil War, Increase	14
Soldiers (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War, Increase	20
Soldiers (Act June 9, 1930), Civil War, Original	1
Soldiers (Act June 9, 1930), Civil War, Increase	15
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Original	177
Soldiers (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War, Increase	427
Soldiers (Act June 2, 1930), Spanish War, Original	263
Soldiers (Act June 2, 1930), Spanish War, Increase	2,467
Soldiers (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars, Original	9
Soldiers (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars, Increase	2

P. D. 68	11
Widows (General Law)	5
Widows (Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930), Civil War	71
Widows (Act July 3, 1926), Civil War	1
Widows (Act May 1, 1926), Spanish War	107
Widows (Act March 3, 1927), Indian Wars	2
Wives (Act March 3, 1899), One-half Pension	6
Mothers	4
Helpless children	1
Guardians	16
Reimbursement	42
Unendorsed checks	22
New pension certificate	2
Certificate in lieu of lost discharge	7
Total	3,731
Number of claims allowed	2,500
Number of claims rejected	335
Amount collected	\$130,648.20

All these claims have had the careful consideration of the Pension Bureau, and it is a source of gratification to the State that so many claims have been approved and these veterans and their dependents are now in receipt of a pension. Among the pensions allowed there were seven claims in which the first check amounted to over \$1,000, the outstanding case being that of a civil war soldier whose first payment amounted to over \$7,800.

In addition to the above, we are often called upon to execute affidavits for persons who have filed pension claims through other attorneys, and to advise as to the method of procedure in order to complete the cases, all of which does not appear in the above summary or in our office records. This department is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors, and their dependents having a residence in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws are received from persons residing in other States and prompt and careful attention is given every communication. We execute vouchers in cases where payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and also in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife. These vouchers are executed on or after the fourth of each month. A number of Civil War claims for increase of pension to \$90 and \$100 per month have been received. In cases where the pensioner is in receipt of \$72 per month no formal application is required, but a request for the increased rate accompanied by medical evidence showing that the claimant is totally helpless or blind must be forwarded to the Pension Bureau. In relation to the above, the words "totally helpless" mean inability to feed oneself, to sit up, put on or take off a garment, or walk at all; in short, a bedridden or equally disabling condition. There is no expense to the claimant for prosecution of claims, blanks or postage.

Two important pension laws were passed during the year 1930: On June 2, 1930, the Congress passed an Act granting pensions and increase of pensions to certain soldiers, sailors and nurses of the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, and the China Relief Expedition. On June 9, 1930, the President approved an Act revising and equalizing the rates of pension to certain soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War and to certain widows and former widows of such soldiers, sailors, and marines, and granting pensions and increase of pensions on account of Civil War service. This act was almost wholly automatic in its operation.

I deem it advisable to print these laws below, together with "Quotations from the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended July 3, 1930", and "An Act to apply the pension laws to the Coast Guard".

ACT OF JUNE 2, 1930.

AN ACT GRANTING PENSIONS AND INCREASE OF PENSIONS TO CERTAIN SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND NURSES OF THE WAR WITH SPAIN, THE PHILIPPINE INSURRECTION, OR THE CHINA RELIEF EXPEDITION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all persons who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the China relief expedition, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, or who, having served less than ninety days, were discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty, and who are now or who may hereafter be suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character which so incapacitates them for the performance of manual labor as to render them unable to earn a support, shall, upon making due proof of the fact, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the list of invalid pensions of the United States and be entitled to receive a pension not exceeding \$60 a month and not less than \$20 a month, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support, and in determining such inability each and every infirmity shall be duly considered and the aggregate of the disabilities shown shall be rated. These rates to be fixed as follows: \$20 a month for one-tenth disability; \$25 a month for one-fourth disability; \$35 a month for one-half disability; \$50 a month for three-fourths disability; and \$60 a month for total: *Provided*, That any such person who has reached the age of sixty-two years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$30 a month; in case such person has reached the age of sixty-eight years, \$40 a month; in case such person has reached the age of seventy-two years, \$50 a month; and in case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years, \$60 a month: *Provided further*, That all leaves of absence and furloughs under General Orders, Numbered 130, August 29, 1898, War Department, shall be included in determining the period of pensionable service: *Provided further*, That the provisions, limitations, and benefits of this section be, and hereby are, extended to and shall include any woman who served honorably as a nurse, chief nurse, or superintendent of the Nurse Corps under contract for ninety days or more between April 21, 1898, and February 2, 1901, inclusive, and to any such nurse, regardless of length of service, who was released from service before the expiration of the ninety days because of disability contracted by her while in the service in line of duty.

SEC. 2. Any soldier, sailor, or marine or nurse now on the pension roll or who may be hereafter entitled to a pension under the Act of June 5, 1920, or under that Act as amended by the Act of September 1, 1922, or under the Act of May 1, 1926, or under this Act on account of his service during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or China relief expedition, who is now or hereafter may become, on account of age or physical or mental disabilities, helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person, shall be given a rate of \$72 a month: *Provided*, That no one while an inmate of the United States Soldiers' Home or of any national or State soldiers' home shall be paid more than \$50 per month under this Act.

SEC. 3. That all persons who served seventy days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or the China relief expedition, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, and who are now or who may hereafter be suffering from any mental or physical disability or disabilities of a permanent character which so incapacitates them for the performance of manual labor as to render them unable to earn a support, shall, upon making due proof of the fact, according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the list of invalid pensioners of the United States and be entitled to receive a pension not exceeding \$30 a month

and not less than \$12 a month, proportioned to the degree of inability to earn a support, and in determining such inability each and every infirmity shall be duly considered and the aggregate of the disabilities shown shall be rated. These rates to be fixed as follows: \$12 a month for one-tenth disability, \$15 a month for one-fourth disability, \$18 a month for one-half disability, \$24 a month for three-fourths disability, and \$30 a month for total: *Provided*, That any person who has reached the age of sixty-two years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$12 a month; in case such person has reached the age of sixty-eight years, \$18 a month; in case such person has reached the age of seventy-two years, \$24 a month; and in case such person has reached the age of seventy-five years, \$30 a month: *Provided further*, That all leaves of absence and furloughs under General Orders, Numbered 130, War Department, August 29, 1898, shall be included in determining the period of pensionable service: *Provided further*, That the provisions, limitations, and benefits of this section be, and hereby are, extended to and shall include any woman who served honorably as a nurse, chief nurse, or superintendent of the Nurse Corps under contract for seventy days or more between April 21, 1898, and February 2, 1901, inclusive.

SEC. 4. Any soldier, sailor, marine, or nurse who may be entitled to a pension under section 3 of this Act on account of his service during the war with Spain, the Philippine insurrection, or China relief expedition, who may become, on account of age or physical or mental disabilities, helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person, shall be given a rate of \$50 a month: *Provided*, That no one while an inmate of the United States Soldiers' Home or of any National or State soldiers' home shall be paid more than \$50 per month under this Act.

SEC. 5. That the pension or increased rate of pension herein provided for shall commence from the date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions after the approval of this Act in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior, provided they are entitled to a pension under the provisions of this Act, and the issue of a check in payment of a pension for which the execution and submission of a voucher was not required shall constitute payment in the event of the death of the pensioner on or after the last day of the period covered by such check, and it shall not be canceled, but shall become an asset of the estate of the deceased pensioner.

SEC. 6. Nothing contained in this Act shall be held to affect or diminish the additional pension to those on the roll designated as the Army and Navy Medal of Honor Roll, as provided by the Act of April 27, 1916, but any pension or increase of pension herein provided for shall be in addition thereto, and no pension heretofore granted under any Act, public or private, shall be reduced by anything in this Act.

SEC. 7. No claim agent, attorney, or other person engaged in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under the provisions of this Act shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain any fee for such services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting claims when claimant is already on the pension rolls under the Act of May 1, 1926, or any other prior pensions Acts: *Provided*, That no claim agent, attorney, or other person engaged in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any original pension claim under the provisions of this Act shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, demand, receive, or retain for such services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting such original pension claim, a sum in excess of \$10, which sum shall be payable upon the order of the Commissioner of Pensions under such rules and regulations as he may deem proper to make; and no claim agent, attorney, or other person shall contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting claims for increase of pension under the provisions of this Act; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, otherwise, contract for, demand, or retain a fee for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under this Act, or shall

wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of the pension allowed or due to such pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every offense, be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 8. That nothing contained in the provisions of this Act shall be construed to diminish or reduce any pension heretofore granted under the prior Acts of June 5, 1920; September 1, 1922; or May 1, 1926.

SEC. 9. That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified and amended only so far and to the extent as herein specifically provided and stated.

NICHOLAS LONGWORTH,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

CHARLES CURTIS,

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*

ACT OF JUNE 9, 1930.

AN ACT TO REVISE AND EQUALIZE THE RATE OF PENSION TO CERTAIN SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES OF THE CIVIL WAR, TO CERTAIN WIDOWS, FORMER WIDOWS OF SUCH SOLDIERS, SAILORS, AND MARINES, AND GRANTING PENSIONS AND INCREASE OF PENSIONS IN CERTAIN CASES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That every person who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War, and who has been honorably discharged from all contracts of service, or who, having so served less than ninety days was discharged for a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, or is now on the pension roll as a Civil War veteran, under existing service pension laws, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$75 per month.

SEC. 2. That every person who served ninety days or more in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War and who has been honorably discharged from all contracts of service, or who, having so served less than ninety days, was discharged for a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, or is now on the pension roll as a Civil War veteran, under existing service pension laws, and who is now or hereafter may become, by reason of age or physical or mental disabilities, helpless or blind or so nearly helpless or blind as to require the regular aid and attendance of another person, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$100 per month.

SEC. 3. That the widow or remarried widow of any person who served in the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the Civil War for ninety days or more and was honorably discharged from all contracts of service, or regardless of the length of service, was discharged for or died in service of a disability incurred in the service and in the line of duty, or who has heretofore been allowed a pension as a Civil War veteran, under existing service pension laws, such widow having been married to such Civil War veteran prior to June 27, 1905, who is now or who may hereafter attain the age of seventy years, shall be entitled to and shall be paid a pension at the rate of \$40 per month; and nothing herein shall be construed to affect the additional allowance provided by existing pension laws for a helpless child or child under sixteen years of age: *Provided*, That hereafter the service pension laws applicable to Civil War widows shall extend to the former widow of a Civil War veteran, such widow having remarried either once or more than once after the death of the veteran, if it be shown that such subsequent or successive remarriage has been dissolved either by the death of the husband or husbands, or by divorce on any ground except adultery on the part of the wife.

SEC. 4. That there should be no recovery of pension payments from any beneficiary of the Bureau of Pensions, who in the judgment of the Commissioner of Pensions is without fault, and when in the judgment of the Commissioner of Pensions such recovery would be contrary to equity and good conscience.

SEC. 5. That the increase of pension herein provided shall be effective from and after the fourth day of the month next after the approval of this Act, and, as to those then in receipt of pension and shown to be entitled to such increase, shall commence from such date; and, as to those not then entitled, the increase shall commence from the date when the requisite condition is shown: *Provided*, That as to those not now in receipt of pension and who may be entitled to pension under this Act, such pension shall commence from the date of filing application therefor in the Bureau of Pensions, on and after the approval of this Act, in such form as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior: *Provided further*, That the pension paid under this Act to any Civil War veteran for any period during which he was actually residing in the United States Soldiers' Home or in any National or State Soldiers' Home shall be reduced at the rate of \$25 per month.

SEC. 6. That no claim agent or attorney or other person shall be recognized in the adjustment of claims under this Act, except in claims for original pension, and in such cases no more than the sum of \$10 shall be allowed for service in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any such claim, which sum shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this section, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall, for each and every offense, be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court.

SEC. 7. That all Acts and parts of Acts in conflict with or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby modified and amended only so far and to the extent herein specifically provided and stated. (*Approved, June 9, 1930.*)

QUOTATIONS FROM THE WORLD WAR VETERANS' ACT, 1924, AS AMENDED
JULY 3, 1930.

TITLE I, SECOND PARAGRAPH, SECTION 200.—“On and after the date of the approval of this amendatory Act any honorably discharged ex-service man who entered the service prior to November 11, 1918, and served ninety days or more during the World War, and who is or may hereafter be suffering from a 25 per centum or more permanent disability, as defined by the director, not the result of his own willful misconduct, which was not acquired in the service during the World War, or for which compensation is not payable, shall be entitled to receive a disability allowance at the following rates: 25 per centum permanent disability, \$12 per month; 50 per centum permanent disability, \$18 per month; 75 per centum permanent disability, \$24 per month; total permanent disability, \$40 per month. No disability allowance payable under this paragraph shall commence prior to the date of the passage of this amendatory Act or the date of application therefor, and such application shall be in such form as the director may prescribe: *Provided*, That no disability allowance under this paragraph shall be payable to any person not entitled to exemption from the payment of a Federal income tax for the year preceding the filing of application for such disability allowance under this paragraph. In any case in which the amount of compensation hereafter payable to any person for permanent disability under the provisions of this Act is less than the maximum amount of the disability allowance payable for a corresponding degree of disability under the provisions of this paragraph, then such person may receive such disability allowance in lieu of compensation. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to allow the payment to any person of both a disability allowance and compensation during the same period; and all payments made to any person

for a period covered by a new or increased award of disability allowance or compensation shall be deducted from the amount payable under such new or increased award. *As used in Titles I and V of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, the term "compensation" shall be deemed to include the term "disability allowance" as used in this paragraph.*

ACT OF JULY 2, 1930.

This act extends the benefits of the general pension laws to the officers and enlisted men of the Coast Guard and their widows, children, and other dependents. Prior to the approval of said act pension was not allowed to officers or enlisted men in the Coast Guard either on the active or retired list.

AN ACT TO APPLY THE PENSION LAWS TO THE COAST GUARD.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the provisions of sections 4692, 4693, 4702, and 4703, Revised Statutes of the United States, with subsequent amendatory Acts, commonly known as the general pension law, be extended to the officers and enlisted men of the Coast Guard and their widows, children, and other dependents, under the same regulations and restrictions as are or may be provided by law with respect to officers and enlisted men of the Army and Navy.

SEC. 2. The benefits provided by this Act shall include claims for pension based upon diseases contracted, or death or injury incurred, in service and in line of duty, from and after the date of approval of this Act: *Provided, however,* That the date of commencement of pension granted hereunder shall commence from date of filing application in the Bureau of Pensions, under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may prescribe.

SEC. 3. That no claim agent or attorney or other person shall contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee of more than \$10 for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting a claim for original pension under this Act; and no more than \$2 in a claim for increase of pension, which fee shall be payable only on the order of the Commissioner of Pensions; and any person who shall, directly or indirectly, otherwise contract for, demand, receive, or retain a fee for services in preparing, presenting, or prosecuting any claim under this Act, or shall wrongfully withhold from the pensioner or claimant the whole or any part of the pension allowed or due such pensioner or claimant under this Act, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall for each and every offense be fined not exceeding \$500 or be imprisoned not exceeding one year, or both, in the discretion of the court. (*Approved, July 2, 1930.*)

The thanks of this department are due to the United States Pension Commissioner and his staff for their hearty co-operation and the painstaking attention given to our claims.

MASS.
DOCS.
COLL.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1931



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JANUARY 9, 1932.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1930, and that portion relating to pensions and to Hospital or Home Care covering the year 1931.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Indian Campaigns, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 269 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during the year 1930,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1931—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$118,581.30
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	18,940.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	5,124.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War Service	28,745.25
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	342.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	2,523.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	728.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	1,579.75
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	55,178.00
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	6,731.37

Total for 1930 \$238,473.67

These figures show an increase of \$36,915.64 over 1929, which is due to the passage of Chapter 196, Acts of 1930. This act increased the amount of the State allowance to veterans and their dependents from \$6.00 to \$10.00 a month, but not more than \$20.00 can be paid to the dependents of any one veteran.

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1930, was 1,536, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 234; decrease, 59.

Wives, 5.

Widows, 1,279; decrease, 226.

Children, 18; decrease, 1.

Total, 1,536.

Net decrease of recipients during 1930, 286.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$77.20+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1930, was 268, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 85; increase, 13.
 Wives, 4.
 Widows, 155; increase, 25.
 Mothers, 23; decrease, 3.
 Army nurses, 1.
 Total, 268.

Net increase of recipients during 1930, 35.
 Average cost to State per person aided, \$70.67 +.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1930, was 78, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 28; increase, 3.
 Widows, 39; increase, 14.
 Mothers, 11; increase, 4.
 Total, 78.

Net increase of recipients during 1930, 21.
 Average cost to State per person aided, \$65.69 +.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1930, was 410, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 70; increase, 50.
 Wives, 5; increase, 2.
 Widows, 253; increase, 81.
 Mothers, 32; increase, 12.
 Fathers, 1.
 Children, 48; increase, 3.
 Army nurses, 1.
 Total, 410.

Net increase of recipients during 1930, 148.
 Average cost to State per person aided, \$70.11 +.

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$60,351.75, an increase of \$13,277.93 over 1929, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 5; decrease, 1.
 Spanish War soldiers, 31; decrease, 5.
 Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 7; decrease, 7.
 Mexican Border Service soldiers, 10.
 German War soldiers, 480; increase, 89.
 German War army nurses, 1; increase, 1.
 German War electricians, 1.

CIVIL WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$342.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$68.40.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
SPANISH WAR:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	2,243.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$74.78 +.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4	280.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$280.00.	
PHILIPPINE INS. SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	728.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$104.07 +.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	1,579.75
Average cost to State per person aided, \$157.97 +.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	
GERMAN WAR SERVICE:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	55,178.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$114.47 +.	
Amount expended, classes 3 and 4, none.	

Total	\$60,351.75
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Burials

During the year 1930, 77 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$6,731.37, classified as follows:

Civil War:—			
Soldiers	12	Decrease	16
Wives	1		
Widows	39	Decrease	27
Total	52		
Indian Campaigns:—			
Soldiers	2	Increase	2
Total	2		
Spanish War:—			
Soldiers	13	Increase	4
Mothers	1	Decrease	1
Wives	1	Increase	1
Total	15		
Philippine Insurrection:—			
Soldiers	2		
Total	2		
Mexican Border Service:—			
Soldiers	1	Increase	1
Total	1		
German War:—			
Soldiers	5	Increase	1
Fathers	0	Decrease	1
Total	5		

Net decrease during 1930, 36.

Average cost to State per burial, \$87.42+.

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS.

The appropriation for the year 1931 under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, was \$55,000.00, and the following is a table of beneficiaries and the amounts paid from December 1, 1930, to November 30, 1931, inclusive:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	11	100	111	\$4,595.25
January	10	101	111	4,173.00
February	11	101	112	4,312.05
March	10	97	107	4,148.00
April	9	97	106	4,231.26
May	8	99	107	4,265.82
June	8	103	111	4,725.22
July	8	102	110	4,684.68
August	9	101	110	4,226.84
September	7	102	109	4,074.27
October	7	111	118	4,678.54
November	7	121	128	5,650.97
Total				\$53,765.90

This total shows an increase of \$5,780.41 over last year's expenditure, which is due to the increase in the number of needy, aged applicants.

Total Payments of State Aid

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1930, were		\$52,031,993.30
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1930, paid in 1931		238,473.67
		\$52,270,466.97
Less State Aid refund on account of current year		30.00
		\$52,270,436.97
Less refunds on account of State and Military Aid, payments of previous years		60.00
		\$52,270,376.97
Less refunds on account of Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, payments of previous years		586.00
		\$52,269,790.97
Special Laws:		
Chapter 340, Acts 1929	\$53,425.90	
Soldiers' Home, 1931, expenses, Chapter 115, Acts 1930	230,000.00	
Chapter 115, Acts 1930, certain improvements:		
1930	\$6,000.00	
1931	6,690.54	
	12,690.54	
		296,116.44
Total November 30, 1931		
		\$52,565,907.41

Bounties and Gratuities

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in Civil War to date		\$17,872,859.82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Ch. 702; Acts 1913, Ch. 105 and Ch. 443)		572,250.00
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Ch. 283 and Ch. 342)		18,514,554.48
Spanish American War Service		149.60
		36,959,813.90
Total November 30, 1931		
		\$89,525,721.31

STATE LEGISLATION OF 1931

Chapter 248, Acts of 1931, extends the benefits of the State and Military Aid law and the Soldiers' Relief law to veterans of the Indian wars or campaigns, and also to their wives, widows and certain dependents, thus giving to them and their dependents the same rights as are given to veterans of the Civil War, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection and the World War, and their dependents. The principal requirements of this act are that the veteran must have actually resided in Massachusetts at the time of his enlistment and must be in receipt of a United States pension for service in Indian wars or campaigns. The widow of an Indian war veteran

also must be in receipt of a United States pension to receive the benefit of these laws, and for State Aid purposes she must have been married to her soldier husband prior to March 4, 1917. This act is printed below.

CHAPTER 248.

AN ACT EXTENDING THE BENEFITS OF STATE AND MILITARY AID AND SOLDIERS' RELIEF TO VETERANS OF THE INDIAN WARS OR CAMPAIGNS, THEIR WIVES, WIDOWS AND DEPENDENTS.

SECTION 1. Section six of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter two hundred and nineteen of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-seven, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "therein" in the forty-fourth line, as printed in chapter three hundred and fifty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-four, the following new paragraph:—Invalid pensioners of the United States who served under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any state or territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with or in the zone of any active Indian hostilities in any of the states or territories of the United States prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, having enlisted in said service while an inhabitant of a town in this commonwealth and actually residing therein;

SECTION 2. Said section six of said chapter one hundred and fifteen, as so amended, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "therefrom" in the ninetieth line, as so printed, the following new paragraph:—The wives of invalid pensioners who served in the Indian wars or campaigns, and the widows of soldiers dying in such service, or after honorable discharge therefrom and while in receipt of a pension from the United States;

SECTION 3. Said chapter one hundred and fifteen, as most recently amended in section seven by section one of chapter two hundred and thirty-three of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty, is hereby further amended by striking out said section seven and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier was in any Indian war or campaign unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight.

SECTION 4. The second paragraph of section ten of said chapter one hundred and fifteen, as most recently amended by section four of chapter one hundred and fifty-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "wars" in the thirtieth line the words:—, Indian wars or campaigns,—so as to read as follows:—First Class. Each person of the first class shall have his settlement in the town aiding him; shall have served as a soldier, sailor or nurse in the manner and under the limitations prescribed in the first class of section six; shall have been honorably discharged or released from active duty in such United States service and from all appointments and enlistments therein; shall be poor and indigent and, by reason of sickness or other physical disability, in such need as would entitle him to relief under chapter one hundred and seventeen; shall not be, directly or indirectly, in receipt of any other state or military aid, or of any pension for services rendered or disabilities incurred either in the civil or Spanish wars, Indian wars or campaigns, the

Philippine Insurrection, the China Relief Expedition, Mexican border service or world war service as defined in section six. The disability must have arisen from causes independent of his military or naval service aforesaid.

SECTION 5. Section seventeen of said chapter one hundred and fifteen, as most recently amended by chapter one hundred and ninety-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "war" in the seventh line the following:—, or a pensioner of the United States who served under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any state or territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with or in the zone of any active Indian hostilities in any of the states or territories of the United States prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 17.* If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war, or a pensioner of the United States who served under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any state or territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with or in the zone of any active Indian hostilities in any of the states or territories of the United States prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under sixteen years of age or for a dependent father or mother, unless such condition is the result of his own criminal or wilful misconduct, or if such person dies leaving a widow or minor children under sixteen years of age, or minor children over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, or a dependent father or mother without proper means of support, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement, and his said dependents, in the case of his death, shall not be deemed ineligible to receive said support by reason of criminal or wilful misconduct on his part at any time during his life-time; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, if he served in the war of the rebellion, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between said dates, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, or if he served in the world war and at the time of his decease was a legal resident of this commonwealth, his widow, who has a legal settlement and who has not remarried, and his minor children under sixteen years of age, and those over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Any crippled, blind or helpless child, whether a minor or adult, of a deceased person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, or in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, if such child is receiving a pension from the United States and is not otherwise eligible to receive relief under this section, shall also be eligible as aforesaid. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an infirmary or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect.

If an applicant for military aid or soldiers' relief has a settlement outside of the town where the application is made, the official required to act thereon shall, within three days, notify the corresponding official in the town of the applicant's settlement, and also the commissioner. If the town of settlement of an applicant for soldiers' relief unreasonably delays in aiding the applicant after receipt of said notice, the town of the applicant's residence shall forthwith grant such aid as the commissioner may order, and the town so granting such aid shall be reimbursed in full therefor by the town of the applicant's settlement. Any town official required to act on such order of the commissioner who refuses and neglects to comply therewith shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than one hundred dollars.

This section shall also apply to army nurses who served in the army hospitals of the United States during the civil war and are entitled to state aid under section six and to army nurses and their dependents as specified herein who served in the army, navy or marine corps during the war with Spain or during the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or during the world war. (*Approved April 28, 1931.*)

Chapter 324, Acts of 1931, established the office of Second Deputy Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions, and His Excellency the Governor appointed to this position Dennis H. Haverty, World War veteran who for many years held the position of State Adjutant of the American Legion. Mr. Haverty is very capably fulfilling the duties of his position, and by reason of his experience in dealing with veterans, he will be a very valuable officer in this department. Chapter 324, Acts of 1931, is printed below.

CHAPTER 324.

AN ACT FURTHER DEFINING THE DUTIES OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS AND ESTABLISHING THE OFFICE OF SECOND DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS.

SECTION 1. Chapter six of the General Laws, as amended in section twenty-two by section one of chapter three hundred and sixty-eight of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-three, is hereby further amended by striking out said section twenty-two and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 22.* There shall be an officer to be known as the commissioner of state aid and pensions, who shall be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the council, for three years, at such salary, not exceeding five thousand dollars, as the governor and council shall determine. He shall devote his whole time to the duties of his office. He shall be state agent for the settlement of pension, bounty, back pay, compensation and other claims of citizens of the commonwealth against the government of the United States, or of any state thereof, on account of military or naval service, and he shall assist and advise war veterans, and their dependents, heirs or legal representatives, with respect to the filing, prosecution and settlement of such claims.

SECTION 2. Said chapter six, as amended in section twenty-four by chapter one hundred and ninety-four of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-nine, is hereby further amended by striking out said section and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 24.* The governor, with the advice and consent of the council, shall appoint a deputy and a second deputy commissioner of state aid and pensions for three years, who shall devote their whole time to the duties of their offices. They shall receive such salaries as may be fixed by the commissioner of state aid and pensions, subject to the approval of the governor and council, and shall be subject to the direction and control of said commissioner. The deputy commissioner, or in case of a vacancy in his office or in his absence or disability the second deputy commissioner, shall perform the duties of said commissioner during his absence on account of disability or other cause. (*Approved May 16, 1931.*)

During the year 1931, the sum of \$221.60 was expended from the "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund,"—Chapter 280, Acts of 1928—leaving a balance of \$462.95 on December 1, 1931.

PERSONNEL.

We have received cordial cooperation from the United States Veterans' Bureau, Washington, D. C., and from its Regional Office in Boston, which has resulted in prompter and better service for the veterans, and our thanks are due to these agencies for their courtesy and assistance.

Colonel Frank P. Williams, Surgeon General of the Commonwealth, and his office staff are, as always, rendering excellent service in their physical examinations of applicants for Military Aid, and in giving medical advice in behalf of the veterans.

The Chief Medical Officers of the United States Naval Hospital at Chelsea, and their assistants, and the officials of the United States Veterans' Hospitals at Rutland, Bedford and Northampton have also assisted us in the cases of those veterans in their hospitals not in receipt of Government compensation or allowance, who sought Military Aid for themselves or Soldiers' Relief for their families.

Our agents made 6,117 calls during 1931, as follows: 576 veterans were visited at various Government hospitals; 99 Soldiers' Relief appeals were investigated as to their worthiness; 4 pension applications were prepared at the homes of the applicants; 11 burial cases required special investigation; 321 cases of applicants for aid under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, were investigated; 1058 Soldiers' Relief cases were investigated at the request of officials of the various municipalities; and 4,048 cases of applicants and recipients of State and Military Aid were investigated. These Soldiers' Relief investigations have worked to the benefit of the veterans, whose rights to receive relief from their places of settlement were thereby established.

PENSION DIVISION.

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1931, was 2,064, classified as follows:—

Soldiers, General Law, Original	28
Soldiers, General Law, Increase	12
Soldiers, Act May 1, 1920, Civil War, Original	1
Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930, Civil War, Increase	28
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	9
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Increase	8
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War, Original	286
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War, Increase	1,343
Nurses, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War	1
Soldiers, Act July 3, 1930, World War, Original	13
Soldiers, Act July 3, 1930, World War, Veterans' Notes	11
Widows, General Law	5
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	70
Widows, Act May 1, 1926, Spanish War	96
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	16
Wives, Act March 3, 1899, One-half Pension	9
Mothers	4
Fathers	1
Guardians	19
Reimbursement	62
Unendorsed checks	26
Bond of Indemnity, lost check	1
New pension certificates	3
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	11
Ten years' service pension	1
Total	2,064
Number of claims allowed	1,732
Number of claims rejected	295
Amount collected	\$123,818.58

It is a source of gratification to the State that the United States Pension Bureau has approved these claims, and that these veterans and dependents are now in receipt of pension. Among the claims allowed were two cases in which the first check amounted to more than \$1,000, one of these cases being that of a Civil War soldier's widow whose first check amounted to more than \$3,100.

In addition to the claims filed above, this department executes affidavits for persons who have filed claims through other attorneys, and advises as to the method of procedure in order to complete these claims. We also execute vouchers in cases in which payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife. This Pension Division is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors and their dependents having a residence in the Commonwealth. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws have been received from persons residing in other States, however, and we have furnished the desired information. There is no expense to the claimants for the prosecution of claims, or for blanks or postage. No pension legislation was enacted in 1931.

The thanks of this department are due to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. W. Morgan, United States Pension Director, Dr. A. D. Wilkinson, Administrative Assistant, and the entire pension staff at Washington, D. C., for their ready cooperation and careful consideration of our claims. The Commissioner also takes pleasure in acknowledging the courtesies extended to him, and through him to the Commonwealth, by the officials of the United States Pension Bureau at Washington, D. C., on the occasion of his visit during the year.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

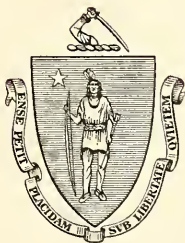
COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1932



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JANUARY 7, 1933.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives:

In conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1931, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1932.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Indian Campaigns, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 268 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1931, — reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1932 — were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$127,430.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	31,102.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	10,097.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	660.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War	66,100.75
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	202.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	1,150.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	1,119.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	1,327.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	37,960.17
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	7,836.39

Total for 1931 \$284,985.31

These figures show an increase of \$46,511.64 over 1930, which is due to the increased demands for assistance because of the existing depression.

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1931, was 1,320, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 168; decrease, 66.

Wives, 4; decrease, 1.

Widows, 1,123; decrease, 156.

Mothers, 3; increase, 3.

Children, 22; increase, 4.

Total, 1,320.

Net decrease of recipients during 1931, 216.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.53+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1931, was 330, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 134; increase, 49.
Wives, 8; increase, 4.
Widows, 164; increase, 9.
Mothers, 23.
Army nurses, 1.
Total, 330.

Net increase of recipients during 1931, 62.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$94.24+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1931, was 117, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 58; increase, 30.
Wives, 1; increase, 1.
Widows, 47; increase, 8.
Mothers, 11.
Total, 117.

Net increase of recipients during 1931, 39.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$86.29+.

The total number of recipients, Indian Campaign Service, for 1931, was 14, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 8.
Wives, 1.
Widows, 5.
Total, 14.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$47.14+.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1931, was 948, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 464; increase, 394.
Wives, 51; increase, 46.
Widows, 334; increase, 81.
Mothers, 41; increase, 9.
Fathers, 5; increase, 4.
Children, 52; increase, 4.
Army nurses, 1.
Total, 948.

Net increase of recipients during 1931, 538.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$69.72+.

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$41,759.17, a decrease of \$18,592.58 from 1930, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 2; decrease, 3.
Spanish War soldiers, 20; decrease, 11.
Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 13; increase, 6.
Mexican Border Service soldiers, 14; increase, 4.
German War soldiers, 456; decrease, 24.
German War army nurses, 1.
German War electricians, 0; decrease 1.

CIVIL WAR:— Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	\$202.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$101.	
SPANISH WAR:— Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	1,150.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$57.52+.	
PHILIPPINE INS. SERVICE:— Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	1,119.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$86.11+.	
MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE:— Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	1,327.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$94.78+.	
GERMAN WAR SERVICE:— Amount expended, classes 1 and 2	37,960.17
Average cost to State per person aided, \$83.06+.	
Total	\$41,759.17

Burials

During the year 1931, 88 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$7,836.39, classified as follows:

Civil War: —			
Soldiers		14	Increase 2
Wives		1	
Widows		49	Increase 10
Total		64	
Indian Campaigns: —			
Soldiers		1	Decrease 1
Total		1	
Spanish War: —			
Soldiers		9	Decrease 4
Wives		1	
Widows		1	Increase 1
Mothers		1	
Total		12	
Philippine Insurrection: —			
Soldiers		4	Increase 2
Total		4	
Mexican Border Service: —			
Soldiers		0	Decrease 1
German War: —			
Soldiers		4	Decrease 1
Wives		1	Increase 1
Mothers		1	Increase 1
Fathers		1	Increase 1
Total		7	

Net increase during 1931, 11.

Average cost to State per burial, \$89.04+.

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS.

The appropriation for the year 1932 under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, was \$58,000.00, and the following is a table of beneficiaries and the amounts paid from December 1, 1931, to November 30, 1932, inclusive:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	10	114	124	\$5,098.54
January	9	113	122	5,260.54
February	9	114	123	4,931.48
March	8	108	116	4,807.83
April	9	104	113	4,474.03
May	7	98	105	4,083.91
June	7	99	106	4,062.33
July	7	100	107	4,195.33
August	7	94	101	3,774.33
September	7	97	104	3,902.33
October	8	94	102	3,760.33
November	8	103	111	4,085.33
Total				\$52,436.31

These figures show a decrease of \$989.59 from the expenditure for 1931.

Total Payments of State Aid

The total payments by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors, including appropriations made by the General Court toward maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1931, were .		\$52,565,907.41
State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors on account of 1931, paid in 1932		284,985.31
		\$52,850,892.72
Less Military Aid refunds, payments of previous years		60.00
		\$52,850,832.72
One-half of Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, payments reimbursed by the cities and towns as follows:		
June, 1929	\$2,565.25	
June, 1930	23,992.74	
June, 1931	26,712.95	
June, 1932	26,218.15	
		79,489.09
		\$52,771,343.63
Special Laws:		
Chapter 340, Acts 1929	\$52,436.31	
Soldiers' Home, 1932	136,614.46	
		189,050.77
Total November 30, 1932		\$52,960,394.40

Bounties and Gratuities

Total payments of bounties on account of soldiers in Civil War to date		\$17,872,859.82
Gratuities (Acts 1912, Ch. 702; Acts 1913, Ch. 105 and Ch. 443)		572,250.00
Gratuities (General Acts 1919, Ch. 283 and Ch. 342)		18,530,211.27
Spanish American War Service		92.16
		36,975,413.25
Total November 30, 1932		\$89,935,807.65

STATE LEGISLATION OF 1932.

Chapter 63, Acts of 1932, amended the Soldiers' Relief law in that it gives to the veteran the right to designate the place where his custom shall be given when the civil authorities find it necessary to have the aid expended for him.

Chapter 106, Acts of 1932, relieved city clerks of the responsibility of certifying under oath to the correctness of returns of State and Military Aid unless they are acting in the capacity of local commissioners of Soldiers' Relief and State and Military Aid or corresponding officer.

Chapter 113, Acts of 1932, granted to the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions the right to information from banks and other depositories when he has reason to believe that the applicant or recipient of aid has money on deposit and is therefore not eligible for public assistance. This law aims to prevent abuse of relief laws and grants of aid to people not entitled thereto.

Chapter 250, Acts of 1932, changed the date of marriage for wives and widows of soldiers or sailors of the Mexican Border Service or of the World War to, "on or before January 1, 1928." Prior to the passage of this Act, the cases of these wives and widows were not eligible unless they were married to their soldier husbands "prior to their final discharge from such service."

Chapter 251, Acts of 1932, increased the amount of burial expense that may be contracted from \$200.00 to \$250.00. This admits a greater number of cases to eligibility under the State burial law.

Chapter 270, Acts of 1932, provided that the State Aid and Pension Department shall be reimbursed by the cities and towns for expenses incurred by the Commissioner in making investigations of their State and Military Aid and Soldiers' Relief cases when requests for such investigations are made by the mayor or the selectmen.

These acts are printed below.

CHAPTER 63.

AN ACT PROHIBITING CERTAIN INTERFERENCE WITH PERSONS IN RECEIPT OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Section seventeen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section five of chapter two hundred and forty-eight of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-one, is hereby further amended by inserting after the first paragraph the following new paragraph:—

Whenever money is expended for any person within the provisions hereof, no officer of any town shall, directly or indirectly, solicit, direct, or in any way interfere with the recipient of such aid in the matter of the person, partnership or corporation to whom or to which, or the place at which, the recipient shall give his custom; and whoever violates this provision shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars. (*Approved March 7, 1932.*)

CHAPTER 106.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO CERTIFICATES OF PAYMENTS MADE BY CITIES IN FURNISHING STATE AND MILITARY AID.

Section fifteen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by section sixty-seven of chapter three hundred and sixty-two of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-three, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the thirteenth and fourteenth lines, the words "city clerk" and inserting in place thereof the words:— commissioner of soldiers' relief and state and military aid or corresponding officer, or if there is no such commissioner or officer, the city clerk,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 15.* The full amount expended for state or military aid by any town, the names of the persons aided and the classes to which they severally belong, the amounts paid to or for each person, the reasons therefor, the names of the persons on account of whose services the aid was granted, the names, if any, of the companies, regiments, stations, organizations or vessels in which they respectively enlisted, or to which they were appointed, and in which they last served, and the relationship of each person aided, to the soldier or sailor on account of whose service the aid was granted, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall, within the first ten days of the month following the month in which the expenditure was made, be certified, on oath, by the mayor, treasurer and commissioner of soldiers' relief and state and military aid or corresponding officer, or if there is no such commissioner or officer, the city clerk of any city or a majority of the selectmen of any town disbursing the same, to said commissioner on blank forms provided by him, and in a manner approved by him. The commissioner shall examine the certificates thereof and allow and endorse thereon such amounts as he finds have been paid and reported according to this chapter, and shall transmit the certificates to the comptroller. The commissioner may decide upon the necessity of the amount paid in each case, and may allow any part thereof which he deems proper and lawful and which, in cases of payment to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to receive military aid, he shall also find to have been made according to his orders; but he shall allow and endorse the amounts which he has specifically authorized to be paid under and according to his decisions made under section five. The whole of the amounts legally paid as aforesaid and so allowed for state aid, and all payments to or for persons of the third or fourth class entitled to military aid, and one half of all payments made to persons of the first or second class entitled to military aid, but

none of the expenses attending the payment of state or military aid, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after such expenditure. (*Approved March 23, 1932.*)

CHAPTER 113.

AN ACT REQUIRING THE FURNISHING OF INFORMATION TO THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS BY CERTAIN BANKS AND OTHER DEPOSITORYES RELATIVE TO CERTAIN DEPOSITS THEREIN.

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section two the following new section: — *Section 2A.* A treasurer of a savings bank, institution for savings, national bank, trust company, co-operative bank, benefit association, insurance company or safe deposit company who, upon request in writing signed by the commissioner, or his duly authorized agent, unreasonably refuses to inform him of the amount deposited in the corporation or association to the credit of a person named in such request who is a recipient of aid or relief under this chapter or an applicant therefor, or who wilfully renders false information in reply to such request, shall forfeit fifty dollars to the use of the commonwealth. (*Approved March 23, 1932.*)

CHAPTER 250.

AN ACT ENLARGING THE CLASS OF WIDOWS OF VETERANS OF THE MEXICAN BORDER SERVICE OR OF THE WORLD WAR WHO MAY BE BURIED AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

Section nineteen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section two of chapter two hundred and thirty-three of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the thirty-fifth and thirty-sixth lines, the words "prior to his final discharge from such service" and inserting in place thereof the following: — on or before January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, — so as to read as follows: — *Section 19.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the board of public welfare or be employed by said board, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or in the Indian campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent father or mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow, in receipt of a pension under the act of congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him on or before January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section. (*Approved May 23, 1932.*)

CHAPTER 251.

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE MAXIMUM EXPENSE OF THE FUNERALS OF CERTAIN VETERANS TOWARD WHICH THE COMMONWEALTH WILL CONTRIBUTE.

Section twenty of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by section seven of chapter one hundred and fifty-five of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-eight, is hereby further amended by inserting after the word "hundred" in the fifth and sixth lines the words:— and fifty,— so as to read as follows:— *Section 20.* The expense of a burial as aforesaid shall not exceed one hundred dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent causing the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, shall exceed two hundred and fifty dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground used exclusively for the burial of persons buried under the provisions of chapter one hundred and seventeen, or in any part of any cemetery or burial ground so used. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier or sailor, the regiment, company, station, organization or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall be certified on oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the town expending the amount, within three months after the burial; and the commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as he finds have been paid, and reported according to the foregoing provisions, and shall transmit the certificate to the comptroller. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after the expenditures have been made.

(The foregoing was laid before the governor on the seventeenth day of May, 1932, and after five days it had "the force of a law", as prescribed by the constitution, as it was not returned by him with his objections thereto within that time.)

CHAPTER 270.

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE PAYMENT BY CITIES AND TOWNS OF EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS IN MAKING CERTAIN INVESTIGATIONS AS TO THE PAYMENT OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF THEREIN.

Section eighteen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by chapter one hundred and thirty-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and twenty-five, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following new paragraph:—

Upon written request therefor by the mayor of a city or the selectmen of a town, the commissioner shall forthwith investigate any matter relating to the administration therein of the laws relating to the furnishing of such relief, and the expenses of such an investigation shall be certified by the commissioner to the state treasurer and shall be collected by him as an additional state tax upon such city or town. *(Approved May 27, 1932.)*

During the year 1932, the sum of \$396.08 was expended from the "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund," — Chapter 280, Acts of 1928 — leaving a balance of \$392.08 on December 1, 1932.

PERSONNEL

It is with regret that I have to report the death of Colonel Frank P. Williams Surgeon General of the Commonwealth, on June 18, 1932. He, with his office assistants, rendered excellent service in physical examinations of veterans who sought aid, and his successor, Colonel Thomas F. Tierney, is continuing this service and hearty cooperation for the welfare of the veterans.

The Chief Medical Officers of the United States Naval Hospital at Chelsea and their assistants, and the officials of the United States Veterans' Hospitals at Rutland, Bedford, Northampton and Newport, R. I., have also been of service to this department in our investigation of the cases under their care not in receipt of Government compensation or allowance, who sought Military Aid for themselves or Soldiers' Relief for their families.

Our agents made 6,843 calls during 1932, as follows: 532 veterans were visited at various hospitals; 143 Soldiers' Relief appeals were investigated as to worthiness and eligibility; 5 pension applications were prepared at the homes of applicants who were unable to come to this office to apply; 2 burial cases required special investigation; 194 cases of applicants and beneficiaries under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, were investigated; 4,634 cases under the State and Military Aid law were investigated; and 1,333 Soldiers' Relief cases were investigated at the request of the various municipal authorities. These Soldiers' Relief investigations have aided the veterans, whose rights under the Soldiers' Relief law were thereby established, and have also aided the cities and towns in their endeavor to be just to the taxpayer as well as the veteran.

PENSION DIVISION.

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1932, was 1,376, classified as follows:

Soldiers, General Law, Original	16
Soldiers, General Law, Increase	6
Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930, Civil War, Increase	26
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	3
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Increase	2
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War, Original	152
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish, Increase	875
Nurses, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War	1
Soldiers, Act July 3, 1930, World War, Original	26
Widows, General Law	4
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	48
Widows, Act May 1, 1926, Spanish War	101
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	11
Wives, Act March 3, 1899, One-half Pension	6
Mothers	2
Guardians	12
Reimbursement	52
Unendorsed checks	21
Bond of Indemnity, lost check	1
New pension certificates	2
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	9
Total	1,376
Number of claims allowed	1,147
Number of claims rejected	331
Amount collected	\$78,243.79

It is a source of gratification to the State that the United States Pension Bureau has approved these claims, and that these veterans and dependents are now in receipt of pension. Among the claims allowed were two cases in which the first check amounted to more than \$1,000, one of these cases being that of a Civil War soldier's widow whose first check amounted to more than \$1,900, and the other that of a Spanish War veteran who received \$2,400.

In addition to the claims filed above, this department executes affidavits for persons who have filed claims through other attorneys, and advises as to the method of procedure in order to complete these claims. We also execute vouchers in cases in which payment is made to the guardian or conservator, and in cases in which the pension is divided between the soldier and his wife. This Pension Division is maintained primarily for soldiers, sailors and their dependents having

a residence in the Commonwealth. A great many inquiries regarding United States pension laws have been received from persons residing in other States, however, and we have furnished the desired information. There is no expense to the claimants for the prosecution of claims, or for blanks or postage. No United States pension legislation was enacted in 1932.

The thanks of this department are due to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. W. Morgan, United States Pension Director, Dr. A. D. Wilkinson, Administrative Assistant, and the entire pension staff at Washington, D. C., for their ready cooperation and careful consideration of our claims. We are also indebted to Colonel William J. Blake of the local office of the U. S. Veterans' Bureau and to his entire staff for their helpful assistance and cooperation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

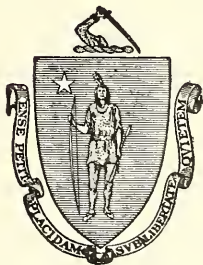
OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1933



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JANUARY 15, 1934.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1932, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1933.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Indian Campaigns, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil and Spanish Wars, the Philippine Insurrection, the Indian Campaigns, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 265 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1932,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1933—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$110,554.60
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	35,231.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	13,428.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border Service..	30.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	1,742.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War	206,468.78
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	198.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	207.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	490.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service...	2,569.37
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War Service	41,228.57
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	5,388.92

Total for 1932 \$417,536.74

These figures show an increase of \$132,551.43 over 1931, which is due to the increased demands for assistance because of the unemployment situation and the financial depression.

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1932, was 1,139, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 124; decrease, 44.	Mothers, 0; decrease, 3.
Wives, 2; decrease, 2.	Children, 21; decrease, 1.
Widows, 992; decrease, 131.	
Total	1,139

Net decrease of recipients during 1932, 181.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$97.06+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1932, was 377, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 172; increase, 38.	Mothers, 22; decrease, 1.
Wives, 10; increase, 2.	Army nurses, 1.
Widows, 172; increase, 8.	

Total 377

Net increase of recipients during 1932, 47.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$93.45+.

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1932, was 148, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 86; increase, 28.

Widows, 52; increase, 5.

Wives, 0; decrease, 1.

Mothers, 10; decrease, 1.

Total 148

Net increase of recipients during 1932, 31.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.72+.

The total number of recipients, Indian Campaign Service, for 1932, was 20, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 11; increase, 3.

Widows, 8; increase, 3.

Wives, 1.

Total 20

Net increase of recipients during 1932, 6.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$86.60+.

The total number of recipients, Mexican Border Service, for 1932, was 1, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 1; increase, 1; Total, 1.

Net increase of recipients during 1932, 1.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$30.

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1932, was 2,476, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 1,777; increase, 1,313.

Mothers, 42; increase, 1.

Yeoman F., 1; increase, 1.

Fathers, 1; decrease, 4.

Wives, 148; increase, 97.

Children, 59; increase, 7.

Widows, 446; increase, 112.

Army nurses, 2; increase, 1.

Total 2,476

Net increase of recipients during 1932, 1,528.

Average cost to State per person aided, \$83.39+.

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$44,693.44, an increase of \$2,934.27 over 1931, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 2.

Spanish War soldiers, 5; decrease, 15.

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 6; decrease, 7.

Mexican Border Service soldiers, 20; increase, 6.

German War soldiers, 455; decrease, 1.

German War army nurses, 0; decrease, 1.

German War Yeoman F., 1; increase, 1.

Civil War:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 \$198.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$99.00.

Spanish War:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 207.50

Average cost to State per person aided, \$41.50.

Philippine Ins. Service:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 490.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$81.66+.

Mexican Border Service:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 2,569.37

Average cost to State per person aided, \$128.46+.

German War Service:—Amount expended, classes 1 and 2 41,150.57

Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.64+.

Amount expended, classes 3 and 4 78.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$39.00.

Total \$44,693.44

Burials

During the year 1932, 66 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$5,388.92, classified as follows:

Civil War:—

Soldiers 9 Decrease 5

Wives 0 Decrease 1

Widows 33 Decrease 16

Total 42

Indian Campaigns:—

Soldiers	0	Decrease	1
Spanish War:—			
Soldiers	10	Increase	1
Wives	0	Decrease	1
Widows	1		
Mothers	1		
Total	12		

Philippine Insurrection:—

Soldiers	1	Decrease	3
Widows	2	Increase	2
Total	3		

Mexican Border Service:—

Soldiers	1	Increase	1
Widows	1	Increase	1
Total	2		

German War:—

Soldiers	2	Decrease	2
Wives	3	Increase	2
Widows	1	Increase	1
Mothers	1		
Fathers	0	Decrease	1
Total	7		

Net decrease during 1932, 22.

Average cost to State per burial, \$81.65+.

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1932, to November 30, 1933:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	7	100	107	\$3,924.93
January	7	100	107	3,667.33
February	6	97	103	3,516.33
March	6	101	107	3,856.33
April	5	104	109	3,546.44
May	3	96	99	3,134.95
June	3	90	93	3,030.33
July	3	95	98	3,179.33
August	4	93	97	3,408.84
September	3	99	102	3,160.96
October	2	94	96	3,026.00
November	3	94	97	3,053.00
Total				\$40,504.77

These figures show a decrease of \$11,931.54 from the expenditure for 1932.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures of this department for 1933, are as follows:

<i>Receipts</i>	
Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of special care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$22,713.13
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	2,144.67
State Aid refunds, payments of previous years	30.00
	\$24,887.80

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents and clerks, and incidental and contingent expenses	\$40,220.08
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1932, paid in 1933	417,536.74
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	40,504.77
	\$498,261.59

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1933, were approximately \$91,000,000.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1933, the sum of \$363.03 was expended from the Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund,—Chapter 280, Acts of 1928—leaving a balance of \$351.11 on December 1, 1933.

STATE LEGISLATION OF 1933

Chapter 323, Acts of 1933, amended Section 18, Chapter 115, General Laws, so as to give the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions the right of mandamus proceedings against cities and towns of legal settlement who refuse to aid veterans and their dependents.

Chapter 363, Acts of 1933, amends Chapter 115, General Laws, to provide for the payment of Military Aid to veterans receiving hospital treatment under order of the United States Veterans' Bureau in hospitals located outside the Commonwealth.

These Acts are printed below.

Chapter 323—*An Act providing for the enforcement of the payment of Soldiers' Relief by cities and towns in certain cases.*

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would in part defeat its purpose, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Section eighteen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as amended by chapter two hundred and seventy of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-two, is hereby further amended by adding at the end of the first paragraph the following new sentence:—The supreme judicial court, by mandamus, upon petition of the attorney general at the relation of the commissioner, may compel the proper city or town officer to give the amount of relief determined by the commissioner. (*Approved July 12, 1933.*)

Chapter 363 — *An Act making certain Massachusetts veterans receiving hospital treatment outside the Commonwealth eligible to receive military aid.*

Whereas, The deferred operation of this act would tend to defeat its purpose, therefore it is hereby declared to be an emergency law, necessary for the immediate preservation of the public convenience.

Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section twelve, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition thereof, the following new section:—*Section 12A.* No veteran, who is or shall be otherwise entitled to military aid, shall lose his right thereto by reason of his absence from the commonwealth while receiving hospital treatment, under order of the United States veterans' bureau, at any hospital located outside the commonwealth. (*Approved July 22, 1933.*)

PERSONNEL

Col. Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon General of the Commonwealth, has rendered excellent service in examining the cases of veterans and giving us reports of the nature and extent of their disabilities, and we are indebted to him for his co-operation. On account of the depression and the reduction in pensions, his work in examining Military Aid cases has greatly increased.

The cities and towns have been exceptionally co-operative in their consideration for the veterans and their dependents during the period of the de-

pression, when their municipal funds were low and it was a problem to procure the money with which to assist them.

Our agents made 6,650 calls during 1933, as follows: 134 veterans were visited at various hospitals; 194 Soldiers' Relief cases were investigated; 3 pension applications were prepared at the homes of applicants who were unable to come to this office to apply; 1 burial case required special investigation; 226 cases of applicants and beneficiaries under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, were investigated; 4,221 cases under the State and Military Aid law were investigated; and 1,871 Soldiers' Relief cases were investigated at the request of municipal authorities.

PENSION DIVISION

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1933, was 461, classified as follows:

Soldiers, General Law, Original	5
Soldiers, General Law, Increase	4
Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930, Civil War, Increase	13
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	2
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Increase	2
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War, Original	27
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Spanish War, Increase	96
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Spanish War, Original	32
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Spanish War, Increase	18
Soldiers, Act July 3, 1930, World War, Original	7
Widows, General Law	1
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	25
Widows, Act May 1, 1926, Spanish War	55
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Spanish War	67
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	5
Wives, Act March 3, 1899, One-half pension	5
Wives, Part pension, Act March 20, 1933	4
Mothers	3
Guardians	8
Helpless Children	1
Reimbursement	51
Unendorsed checks	22
Bond of Indemnity, lost check	1
New pension certificates	1
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	6
Total	461
Number of claims allowed	135
Number of claims rejected	53
Amount collected	\$13,259.98

A number of these claims that were allowed and rejected were filed in previous years, and a number of the claims filed this year have not yet been acted upon by the United States Pension Department.

On March 20, 1933, "An Act to maintain the Credit of the United States Government" was approved by the President.

This Act repealed all public laws under which pensions were granted except so far as they related to persons who served prior to the Spanish American War — viz., April 21, 1898 — and to dependents of such persons. In cases of persons not affected by the provisions of said Act and receiving pension by reason of the veterans' service having been rendered prior to said date, payment of pension was reduced ten per cent for the period ending June 30, 1934.

All cases on file in the Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C., were reviewed by that department with a view to determining the pensionable status of the pensioners.

The provisions of the Act of March 20, 1933, affected the rating of a large number of persons on the pension rolls, including persons holding office or position, appointive or elective, under the United States Government or the municipal government of the District of Columbia or any corporation the majority of stock of which is owned by the United States, and drawing salary

by reason of such employment. It provided for payment of pension to veterans and dependents of veterans for disability or death resulting from active military or naval service during the Spanish American War, the Boxer Rebellion, the Philippine Insurrection or the World War; for payment of pension for disability or death incurred during peace time service; and for payment of pension for disabilities or death not the result of service if the disability or disease is not less than total and permanent in nature, or if the veteran is 62 years of age or over, provided that the veteran or his dependent meets other requirements of the Act of March 20, 1933.

If the service was rendered subsequent to August 12, 1898, the veteran must have participated in hostilities in the Philippine Islands or in the China Boxer Rebellion before July 5, 1902, in order to be entitled to pension by reason of war time service, or if engaged in hostilities in the Moro Province, the date was extended to July 15, 1903.

In the case of a veteran not having active service in accordance with the provisions of the Act of March 20, 1933, the Veterans' Administration requires that the veteran furnish proof that his present disability is the result of his service, and in the cases of his dependents, proof that the veteran's death was the result of injury or disease contracted in the service must be furnished.

Through the courtesy of the Military Department, State House, Boston, Mass., certificates of service were obtained in those cases where the veteran had a Massachusetts enlistment, and information was noted thereon as to injury or disease during periods of service, and the veterans and their dependents were advised and assisted by this department in the completion of all forms and evidence required by the Veterans' Administration in order to prove claim for pension under the provisions of the said Act.

On June 16, 1933, an Act was approved by Congress which extended the benefits of pension to veterans 55 years of age and over who were 50 per cent disabled from disease or injury of non-service origin, increased the rate of pension payable to veterans by reason of age and disability of either service or non-service origin, provided for the renewal of pension to be paid to a child entitled to same up to the age of 18 years and further continued such pension up to the age of 21 years in the case of a child who is attending a school, college, etc., designated by him and approved by the Administrator.

The foregoing Act provides that pension shall not be paid to any unmarried persons whose annual income exceeds \$1000.00 or to any married persons or any persons with minor children whose annual income exceeds \$2500. Veterans receiving pension by reason of age — 62 years or over — or for disability or disease of service origin were not affected by this provision.

In accordance with the provisions of these Acts, the Veterans' Administration requires that full and definite information as to place of employment, income, etc., be furnished on questionnaires mailed to each pensioner. These questionnaires were prepared and executed by this department, and in many cases affidavits and new claims were made out and forwarded to the Veterans' Administration to meet the requirements of the law.

All forms, affidavits, postage, etc., were furnished without charge to pensioners and their dependents, and through the courtesy and co-operation of General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. W. Morgan, Director of Widows' and Dependents' Claims Service, Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, and Dr. A. D. Wilkinson, Administrative Assistant, Veterans' Administration, Washington, D. C., we were able to assist and advise all veterans and dependents in proving their claims for pension by reason of service rendered in the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States. Our thanks are due to them, and also to Col. William J. Blake, of the local office of the United States Veterans' Administration, and his staff, for their assistance and co-operation.



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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1934



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JANUARY 15, 1935.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1933, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1934.

Very respectfully,
RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 264 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1933—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1934—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War.....	\$93,546.60
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns.....	1,742.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain.....	38,561.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service.....	12,890.50
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border Service.....	110.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War.....	219,363.90
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War.....	185.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain.....	1,885.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service.....	2,868.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service.....	2,794.23
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War.....	73,751.41
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents.....	8,716.90
Total for 1933	\$456,415.04

These figures show an increase of \$38,878.30 over 1932, which is due to the financial depression and unemployment conditions.

State Aid

The total number of State Aid recipients, Civil War, for 1933, was 959, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 89; decrease, 35	Widows, 849; decrease, 143
Wives, 1; decrease, 1	Children, 20; decrease, 1
Total	959

Net decrease of recipients during 1933, 180
Average cost to State per person aided, \$97.54+

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1933, was 18, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 7; decrease, 4	Widows, 10; increase, 2
Wives, 1	
Total	18

Net decrease of recipients during 1933, 2
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.77+

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Spanish War, for 1933, was 468, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 244; increase, 72	Widows, 187; increase, 15
Wives, 14; increase, 4	Mothers, 23; increase, 1
	Army Nurses, 0; decrease, 1

Total	468
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Net decrease of recipients during 1933, 91

Average cost to State per person aided, \$82.39+

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection, for 1933, was 165, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 92; increase, 6	Widows, 62; increase, 10
Wives, 1; increase, 1	Mothers, 10

Total	165
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Net increase of recipients during 1933, 17

Average cost to State per person aided, \$78.12+

The total number of State Aid recipients, Mexican Border Service, for 1933, was 1, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 1

Total	1
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$110.00

The total number of State Aid recipients, War with Germany, for 1933, was 3,118, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 2,251; increase, 474	Mothers, 49; increase, 7
Yeoman F., 2; increase, 1	Fathers, 2; increase, 1
Wives, 193; increase, 45	Children, 54; decrease, 5
Widows, 564; increase, 118	Army Nurses, 3; increase, 1

Total	3,118
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Net increase of recipients during 1933, 642

Average cost to State per person aided \$70.35+

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$81,484.14, an increase of \$36,790.70 over 1932, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 2

Spanish War soldiers, 45; increase, 40

Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 61; increase, 55

Mexican Border Service soldiers, 20

German War soldiers, 876; increase, 421

German War Yeoman F., 2; increase, 1

<i>Civil War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$185.50
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$92.75

<i>Spanish War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	1,885.00
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$41.88+

<i>Philippine Ins. Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	2,808.00
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$46.80

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4 60.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.00

<i>Mexican Border Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	2,794.23
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$139.71+

<i>German War Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	73,047.41
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Average cost to State per person aided, \$83.57+

Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4 704.00

Average cost to State per person aided, \$176.00

Total	\$81,484.14
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Burials

During the year 1933, 95 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$8,716.90, an increase of \$3,327.98 over 1932. They are classified as follows:

Civil War:—			
Soldiers	7	Decrease	2
Widows	40	Increase	7
Total	47		
Indian Campaigns:—			
Soldiers	1	Increase	1
Widows	2	Increase	2
Total	3		
Spanish War:—			
Soldiers	17	Increase	7
Widows	5	Increase	4
Mothers	0	Decrease	1
Total	22		
Philippine Insurrection:—			
Soldiers	1		
Widows	0	Decrease	2
Mothers	1	Increase	1
Total	2		
Mexican Border Service:—			
Soldiers	0	Decrease	1
Widows	0	Decrease	1
Total	0		
German War:—			
Soldiers	7	Increase	5
Wives	6	Increase	3
Widows	1		
Mothers	6	Increase	5
Fathers	1	Increase	1
Total	21		

Net increase during 1933, 29.

Average cost to State per burial, \$91.75 +

The State burial law has been amended by Chapter 336, Acts of 1934, to make eligible for consideration thereunder the cases of certain dependent children of certain veterans. A copy of the amended burial law is printed below.

THE STATE BURIAL LAW

Relative to the Burial of Indigent Soldiers, their Wives, Widows or Dependent Mothers or Fathers, and Dependent Children, under Chapter 115, General Laws, as amended by Chapters 250 and 251, Acts of 1932, and Chapter 336, Acts of 1934.

Section 19. The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the board of public welfare or be employed by said board, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the War of the Rebellion, or in the Indian Campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine Insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor

died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent father or mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses, and the bodies of dependent children eighteen years of age or under, of such soldier or sailor, if such soldier or sailor and his wife, or his widow, be without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian Campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow, in receipt of a pension under the act of congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish War, or the Philippine Insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him on or before January first, nineteen hundred and twenty-eight. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

Section 20. The amount of the allowance for a burial as aforesaid, in the case of a soldier, sailor, wife, widow, dependent father or mother or army nurse, shall not exceed one hundred dollars, and in the case of a dependent child, fifty dollars, two dollars of which shall be paid as compensation to the burial agent causing the interment to be made; but if the total expense of the burial, by whomsoever incurred, in the case of a soldier, sailor, wife, widow, dependent father or mother or army nurse, shall exceed two hundred and fifty dollars, or in the case of a child, one hundred and fifty dollars, no payment therefor shall be made by the commonwealth. The burial shall not be made in any cemetery or burial ground used exclusively for the burial of persons buried under the provisions of chapter one hundred and seventeen, or in any part of any cemetery or burial ground so used. Relatives of the deceased who are unable to bear the expense of burial may be allowed to conduct the funeral. The full amount so expended, the name of the deceased soldier or sailor, the regiment, company, station, organization or vessel in which he served, the date of death, place of interment, and in case of a wife or widow the name of the husband and date of marriage, and in the case of a dependent child the name of the father, and such other details as the commissioner may require, shall be certified on oath to him, in such manner as he may approve, by the burial agent and the treasurer of the town expending the amount, within three months after the burial; and the commissioner shall endorse upon the certificate his allowance of such amounts as he finds have been paid, and reported according to the foregoing provisions, and shall transmit the certificate to the comptroller. The amounts legally paid and so allowed, with no expense for disbursement, shall be reimbursed by the commonwealth to the several towns on or before November tenth in the year after the expenditures have been made. *Approved June 27, 1934.*

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1933, to November 30, 1934:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	2	95	97	\$3,092.00
January	3	97	100	3,153.00
February	3	97	100	3,118.00
March	3	94	97	3,022.00
April	3	100	103	3,221.47

May	3	100	103	3,195.00
June	2	95	97	2,890.66
July	1	100	101	3,003.61
August	1	97	98	2,907.00
September	1	92	93	2,721.00
October	1	89	90	2,505.00
November	1	95	96	2,735.48

Total \$35,564.22

These figures show a decrease of \$4,940.55 from the expenditures for 1933.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures of this department for 1934, are as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of special care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$18,814.96
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	1,008.06
State Aid refunds, 1934	120.00
	\$19,943.02

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses ..	39,128.59
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1933, paid in 1934	456,415.04
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts 1929	35,564.22
	\$531,107.85

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvements of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1933, were approximately \$91,500,000.00.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1934, the sum of \$468.25 was expended from the Spanish-American War Reimbursement Fund,—Chapter 280, Acts of 1928—leaving a balance of \$201.62 on December 1, 1934.

PERSONNEL

Col. Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon-General of the Commonwealth, has rendered excellent service to this department in his medical examinations of the cases of veterans and in giving us detailed reports of their disabilities, and we are indebted to him for his hearty cooperation. Owing to the present unemployment conditions and the reductions in pensions, his duties in examining Military Aid cases have materially increased.

Our agents made 6,652 examinations during 1934, as follows: 6,154 cases under the State and Military Aid law were investigated; 192 cases under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, were investigated; 240 Soldiers' Relief cases required investigation by this department; 62 Soldiers' Relief cases were investigated at the request of municipal authorities; and 4 burial cases required special investigation.

The cities and towns have cooperated with us heartily in their consideration of veterans and their dependents during the depression, and we wish to extend to them our appreciation of their efforts.

PENSION DIVISION

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1934, was 429, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930, Civil War, Increase	5
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	5
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Spanish War, Original	82
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Spanish War, Increase	17
Soldiers, Act March 28, 1934, Spanish War, Original	28
Soldiers, Act March 28, 1934, Spanish War, Increase	54
Widows Accrued	5
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	26
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Spanish War	28
Widows, Act March 28, 1934, Spanish War	62
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian War	3
Widows, Act June 28, 1934, World War	6
Wives, Excess Pension, Act March 20, 1933	23
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 28, 1934	10
Mothers	3
Fathers	1
Guardians	16
Helpless Children	2
Reimbursement	32
Unendorsed Checks	15
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	4
Medal of Honor Certificate	1
Total	429
Number of claims allowed	172
Number of claims rejected	27
Amount collected	\$28,871.92

To date a number of claims filed during the year have not as yet been reached for final action in the Veterans' Administration.

On March 28, 1934, Congress passed the Independent Offices Appropriation bill for 1935, which became effective as of that date and made certain provisions for restoration of compensation and pension to veterans, as follows:

Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, in no event shall the compensation being paid on March 19, 1933, under subsections (3) and (5) of section 202 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, to veterans for the loss of the use of both eyes, where such veterans were, except by fraud, mistake, or misrepresentation, in receipt of compensation on March 19, 1933, be reduced or discontinued, except in accordance with the regulations issued under the Act entitled "An Act to maintain the credit of the United States Government", approved March 20, 1933, pertaining to hospitalized cases.

Where service connection for a disease, injury, or disability not caused by his own willful misconduct was on March 19, 1933, established in accordance with section 200 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, and such connection has been severed through the application of, or regulations or instructions promulgated under Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, or Public Law Numbered 78, Seventy-third Congress, service connection is hereby reestablished and as to such cases the provisions of the first paragraph of section 200 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, are hereby reenacted: Provided, That the provisions of this section shall not apply to persons entering the active military or naval service subsequent to the date of November 11, 1918.

Notwithstanding any of the provisions of Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, no pension being paid on March 19, 1933, to any veteran of the Spanish American War, including the Boxer Rebellion and the Philippine

Insurrection, or to the widow as long as she remains unmarried and/or dependents of any such veteran, shall be reduced by more than 25 per centum, except in accordance with the regulations issued pursuant to Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, pertaining to hospitalized cases and except where his disability is the result of his own willful misconduct: Provided, That the provisions of this section shall not apply (1) to persons to whom payments were being made on March 19, 1933, through fraud, clear or unmistakable error as to conclusions of fact or law or misrepresentation of a material fact, except that decisions as to degree of disability rendered prior to March 20, 1933, shall be conclusive, or (2) to any person during any year following a year for which such person was not entitled to exemption from the payment of a Federal income tax: Provided, however, That a veteran in Federal employ shall not receive more than \$6 per month if his salary if single, exceeds \$1,000, and if married, \$2,500: Provided further, That this section shall not apply to any person who enlisted after August 12, 1898, and who did not serve in either the Boxer Rebellion or the Philippine Insurrection.

All laws in effect on March 19, 1933, granting monetary benefits to veterans of the Spanish-American War, including the Boxer Rebellion and the Philippine Insurrection, are hereby reenacted in their entirety, and such laws shall be effective from and after the effective date of this Act, subject to the limitation of this section and to such reduction in pensions as may be made hereunder.

On June 28, 1934, an Act was approved which provided that the surviving widow, child or children of any deceased person who served in the World War before November 12, 1918, or if the person was serving with the United States military forces in Russia before April 2, 1920, who, while receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension, or retirement pay for 30 per-centum disability or more directly incurred in or aggravated by service in the World War, dies or has died from a disease or disability not service connected and not the result of the person's own misconduct shall, upon filing application and such proofs in the Veterans' Administration as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, be entitled to receive compensation: Provided, That the provision of this Act shall not apply to any person during any year following a year for which such person was not entitled to exemption from the payment of a Federal income tax.

All persons on the rolls were required to furnish on the form authorized by the Administration a sworn statement giving full and definite information relative to service, hospitalization, income, etc., in order that title to benefits of awards of pension and compensation in accordance with the acts may be determined by the Veterans' Administration.

Through the courtesy and cooperation of General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Widows' and Dependents' Claims Service and Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, we have been able to assist and advise veterans and their dependents in the matter of title to pension in accordance with the said Acts.

Our appreciation is extended to them, and also to Colonel William J. Blake of the local office of the United States Veterans' Administration, and his staff, for their assistance and cooperation.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

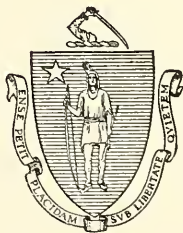
OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1935



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,

State House, Boston, January 11, 1936.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In conformity with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1934, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1935.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,

Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 252 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1934—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1935—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$78,353.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	1,732.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	46,854.25
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Service	13,301.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border Service	120.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War	118,564.96
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	180.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	4,044.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Service	7,051.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	2,032.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War	107,409.41
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	10,853.73
Total for 1934	\$390,496.85

These figures show a decrease of \$65,918.19 from 1933. This is due to the dropping of a number of State Aid World War cases from our rolls by reason of the fact that under the National Recovery Act the Veterans' Administration suspended payments of disability allowance. We were therefore obliged to suspend payments of State Aid to those veterans who lost their pensions, as the State Aid law provides for payment to pensioners only.

Owing to the fact that State Aid was suspended in these cases we were obliged to grant Military Aid, thus increasing the amount of our Military Aid payments. These veterans were also assisted by the various municipalities under the Soldiers' Relief law.

State Aid

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Civil War, for 1934, was 807, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 68; decrease, 21
Wives, 1

Widows, 718; decrease, 131
Children, 20

Total 807

Net decrease of recipients during 1934, 152

Average cost to State per person aided, \$97.09+

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1934, was 16, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 6; decrease, 1	Widows, 9; decrease, 1
Wives, 1	
Total	16
Net decrease during 1934, 2	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$108.25	

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1934, was 517, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 274; increase, 30	Widows, 209; increase, 22
Wives, 13; decrease, 1	Mothers, 20; decrease, 3
	Army Nurses, 1; increase, 1
Total	517
Net increase of recipients during 1934, 49	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.62+	

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection, for 1934, was 158, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 81; decrease, 11	Widows, 67; increase, 5
Wives, 1	Mothers, 8; decrease, 2
	Army Nurses, 1; increase, 1
Total	158
Net decrease during 1934, 7	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$84.18+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Mexican Border Service, for 1934, was 1, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 1	
Total	1
Net increase of recipients during 1934, 0	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$120	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1934, was 1,320, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 506; decrease, 1,745	Mothers, 60; increase, 11
Yeoman F., O; decrease, 2	Fathers, 2
Wives, 54; decrease, 139	Children, 45; decrease, 9
Widows, 652; increase, 88	Army Nurses, 1; decrease, 2
Total	1,320
Net decrease of recipients during 1934, 1,798	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$89.82+	

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$120,717.91, an increase of \$39,233.77 over 1933, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 1; decrease, 1
 Spanish War soldiers, 52; increase, 7
 Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 62; increase, 1
 Philippine Insurrection Army Nurses, 1; increase, 1
 Mexican Border Service soldiers, 11; decrease, 9
 German War soldiers, 898; increase, 22
 German War Yeoman F., 1; decrease, 1

<i>Civil War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$180.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$180.00	
<i>Spanish War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	3,454.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$67.73+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	590.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$590.00	

<i>Philippine Ins. Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	6,691.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$107.92+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	360.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$360.00	
<i>Mexican Border Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	1,972.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$197.25	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	60.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.00	
<i>German War Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	107,049.41
Average cost to State per person aided, \$119.60+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	360.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.00	
Total	\$120,717.91

Burials

During the year 1934, 123 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$10,853.73, an increase of \$2,136.83 over 1933. They are classified as follows:

Civil War:—			
Soldiers	19	Increase	12
Widows	48	Increase	8
Total	67		
Indian Campaigns:—			
Soldiers	1		
Widows	0	Decrease	2
Total	1		
Spanish War:—			
Soldiers	15	Decrease	2
Wives	1	Increase	1
Widows	4	Decrease	1
Mothers	4	Increase	4
Total	24		
Philippine Ins.:—			
Soldiers	5	Increase	4
Mothers	0	Decrease	1
Total	5		
German War:—			
Soldiers	10	Increase	3
Wives	8	Increase	2
Widows	2	Increase	1
Mothers	1	Decrease	5
Fathers	3	Increase	2
Children	2	Increase	2
Total	26		

Net increase during 1934, 28

Average cost to State per person aided, \$88.24+

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1934, to November 30, 1935:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	1	91	92	\$2,625.50
January	1	84	85	2,372.48
February	1	82	83	2,308.52
March	1	88	89	2,472.80
April	1	87	88	2,396.00
May	1	91	92	2,551.00
June	1	100	101	2,836.51
July	1	98	99	2,649.40
August	1	96	97	2,685.75
September	1	96	97	2,782.42
October	1	92	93	2,513.00
November	1	94	95	2,658.00
Total				<u>\$30,851.38</u>

These figures show a decrease of \$4,712.84 from the expenditures for 1934.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures for this department for 1935, were as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of special care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$15,744.52
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	88.87
State Aid refunds, 1935	605.00
	<u>\$16,438.39</u>

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses	\$42,662.95
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1934, paid in 1935	390,496.85
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	30,851.38
	<u>\$464,011.18</u>

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1934, were approximately \$92,000,000.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1935, the sum of \$336 was expended under Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled the "Spanish-American War Reimbursement Fund," leaving a balance of \$184.38 on December 1, 1935.

PERSONNEL

This department is indebted to Colonel Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon-General of the Commonwealth, for services rendered and professional advice in his medical examinations of the veterans of the various wars who seek aid, and his detailed reports of their disabilities enable us to determine the amount of aid needed.

Our agents made 7,288 examinations during 1935, as follows: 6,167 cases under the State and Military Aid law were investigated; 199 cases under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929, were investigated; 234 personal appeals in Soldiers' Relief cases required investigation by this department; 682 Soldiers' Relief cases were investigated at the request of the municipal authorities; and 6 burial cases required special investigation.

We have received excellent cooperation from the cities and towns in their consideration of the veterans, even when their funds were low because of the depression, and appreciate their efforts to be of service.

PENSION DIVISION

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1935, was 363, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act May 1, 1920	2
Soldiers, Act June 2, 1930, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930	7
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	4
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Original	11
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act March 28, 1934, Spanish War, Original	28
Soldiers, Act March 28, 1934, Spanish War, Increase	52
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War, Original	28
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War, Increase	51
Widows Accrued	3
Widows, Act May 1, 1920 amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	9
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	3
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Original	6
Widows, Act March 28, 1934, Spanish War	55
Widows, Act June 28, 1934, World War	1
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War	42
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 3, 1899	6
Mothers	3
Guardians	7
Reimbursement	30
Unendorsed Check	10
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	2
Total	363
Number of claims allowed	280
Number of claims rejected	49
Amount collected	\$35,453.12

The President of the United States on February 8, 1935, issued Executive Order No. 6967 authorizing the payment of pension benefits under specified circumstances to veterans who left the continental limits of the United States between August 13, 1898, and July 4, 1902, under orders for military or naval service in Guam, Cuba or Puerto Rico.

Executive Order 6967

"Any person who served in the military or naval service of the United States between August 13, 1898, and July 4, 1902, both dates inclusive, and who left the continental United States under orders for military or naval service in Guam, Cuba, or Puerto Rico, between such dates, or the widow of any such person as long as she remains unmarried and/or dependents of any such person, to whom a pension was being paid on March 19, 1933, shall, from the date of this regulation, be entitled to receive a pension at 75 per centum of the rates in effect for such persons on March 19, 1933, subject to the reduction provided for in regulations issued pursuant to the act of March 20, 1933, ch. 3, 48 Stat. 8 (Public, No. 2, 73d Congress), pertaining to hospitalized cases: Provided, that no payments may be made to the person who served if his disability is the result of his own willful misconduct: Provided further, that the provisions of this paragraph shall not apply (1) to any person to whom payments were being made on March 19, 1933, through fraud, clear or unmistakeable error as to conclusions of fact or law, or misrepresentation of a material fact, except that decisions as to degree of disability rendered prior to March 20, 1933, shall be conclusive, or (2) to any person during any year following a year for which such person was not entitled to exemption from the payment of a Federal income tax: Provided, however, that a veteran in Federal employ shall not receive more than \$6 per month if his salary if single exceeds \$1,000 and if married \$2,500 per annum: Provided further, that no pension shall be granted under this regulation for disability not shown to be due to service or for age if the person served less than ninety days and was not discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty: And provided further, that persons who meet the requirements of the laws in effect March 19, 1933, and who were not on the rolls on March 19, 1933, shall, subject to the limitations of this regulation, be entitled to receive pension upon the filing of such claim as may be prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs."

On August 13, 1935, an Act was passed by Congress which reenacts in their entirety as of that date all laws in effect March 19, 1933, which granted monetary benefits to veterans of the Spanish-American War, including the Boxer Rebellion and Philippine Insurrection, and to their widows and dependents. Accordingly the following laws are reenacted, viz: Section 314 of the Act of October 6, 1917 (40 Stat. 408); the Act of July 16, 1918 (40 Stat. 903); the Act of June 5, 1920 (41 Stat. 982); the Act of September 1, 1922 (42 Stat. 834); the Act of May 1, 1926 (44 Stat. 382); the Act of June 2, 1930 (46 Stat. 492); and the general law so far as it confers rights on veterans of those wars and on their dependents. It is a source of gratification to the State that by these provisions many veterans and their dependents have been restored to the rolls and are now in receipt of pension benefits.

Our appreciation is extended to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Widows and Dependents' Claims Service, and Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, Washington, D. C., for their ready cooperation and careful consideration of our claims and correspondence, notwithstanding the great volume of work by reason of pension legislation. We are also indebted to Colonel William J. Blake of the local office of the U. S. Veterans' Administration and his entire staff for their helpful assistance and cooperation.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1936



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,

State House, Boston, January 15, 1937.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

Complying with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1935, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1936.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors, and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 242 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1935,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1936—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$65,326.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	2,232.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	47,071.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Ins. Service	14,243.75
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War	135,896.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Civil War	107.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	988.37
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Ins. Service	4,352.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	2,506.75
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War	126,580.31
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	12,577.11
Total for 1935	\$411,881.29

These figures show an increase of \$21,384.44 over 1934.

State Aid

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Civil War, for 1935, was 664, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 43; decrease, 25	Widows, 604; decrease, 114
Wives, none; decrease, 1	Children, 17; decrease, 3
Total	664

Net decrease of recipients during 1935, 143

Average cost to State per person aided, \$98.38+

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1935, was 21, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 10; increase, 4	Widows, 10; increase, 1
Wives, 1	
Total	21

Net increase during 1935, 5

Average cost to State per person aided, \$106.28+

The total number of State Aid recipients, Spanish War, for 1935, was 490, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 243; decrease, 31	Mothers, 19; decrease, 1
Wives, 9; decrease, 4	Army Nurses, 0; decrease, 1
Widows, 219; increase, 10	
Total	490
Net decrease of recipients during 1935, 27	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.06+	

The total number of State Aid recipients, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1935, was 157, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 78; decrease, 3	Widows, 67
Wives, 2; increase, 1	Mothers, 8
Army Nurses, 1	Children, 1; increase, 1
Total	157
Net decrease during 1935, 1	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.72+	

The total number of State Aid recipients, War with Germany, for 1935, was 1,393, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 517; increase, 11	Fathers, 3; increase, 1
Wives, 57; increase, 3	Children, 18; decrease, 27
Widows, 734; increase, 82	Army Nurses; 1
Mothers, 63; increase, 3	
Total	1,393
Net increase of recipients during 1935, 73	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$97.55+	

Military Aid

Military Aid to the amount of \$134,535.43, an increase of \$13,817.52 over 1934, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 1	
Spanish War soldiers, 13; decrease, 39	
Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 38; decrease, 24	
Philippine Insurrection Army Nurses, 0; decrease, 1	
Mexican Border Service soldiers, 13; increase, 2	
German War soldiers, 1,033; increase, 135	
German War Army Nurses, 1; increase, 1	
<i>Civil War:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$107.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$107.50	
<i>Spanish War:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	778.37
Average cost to State per person aided, \$64.86+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	210.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$210.00	
<i>Philippine Ins. Service:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	4,262.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$115.20+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	90.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.00	
<i>Mexican Border Service:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	2,391.75
Average cost to State per person aided, \$199.31+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	115.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$115.00	
<i>German War Service:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	125,756.81
Average cost to State per person aided, \$122.56+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	823.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$102.93+	
Total	\$134,535.43

Burials

During the year 1935, 150 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$12,577.11, an increase of \$1,723.38 over 1934. They are classified as follows:

Civil War:—

Soldiers	12	Decrease	7
Widows	40	Decrease	8
Total	52		

Indian Campaigns:—

Soldiers	1		
Widows	1	Increase	1
Total	2		

Spanish War:—

Soldiers	20	Increase	5
Wives	2	Increase	1
Widows	2	Decrease	2
Mothers	1	Decrease	3
Total	25		

Philippine Ins:—

Soldiers	10	Increase	5
Total	10		

Mexican Border:—

Soldiers	2	Increase	2
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German War:—

Soldiers	19	Increase	9
Wives	10	Increase	2
Widows	4	Increase	2
Mothers	5	Increase	4
Fathers	4	Increase	1
Children	17	Increase	15
Total	59		

Net increase during 1935, 27

Average cost to State per burial, \$83.84+

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS, UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1935, to November 30, 1936:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	1	87	88	\$2,435.00
January	1	88	89	2,606.80
February	1	88	89	2,550.30
March		87	87	2,389.73
April		82	82	2,284.83
May		82	82	2,199.01
June		79	79	2,187.00
July		79	79	2,170.00
August		79	79	2,212.39
September		78	78	2,098.00
October		73	73	2,051.00
November		75	75	2,174.00
Total				\$27,358.06

These figures show a decrease of \$3,493.32 from the expenditure for 1935.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures for this department for 1936, were as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of Special care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$15,295.38
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	1,180.49
Burial Refund, 1936	14.80
	<u>\$16,490.67</u>

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses	\$43,729.47
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1935, paid in 1936	411,881.29
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	27,358.06
	<u>\$482,968.82</u>

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1935, were approximately \$92,500,000.

LEGISLATION

Chapter 77, Acts of 1936, a copy of which is printed below, amended the Soldiers' Relief law to grant assistance thereunder to "needy" fathers and mothers. This amendment is of great benefit to the parents of veterans, who heretofore were obliged to furnish proof of dependency upon the veterans in order to be entitled to Soldiers' Relief benefits.

[CHAPTER 77]

AN ACT REGULATING THE GRANTING OF SOLDIERS' RELIEF TO NEEDY PARENTS OF CERTAIN WAR VETERANS

Section seventeen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter sixty-three of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-two, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the fourteenth and eighteenth lines, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, the word "dependent" and inserting in place thereof, in each instance, the word:—needy,—by striking out, in the nineteenth line, as so appearing, the words "without proper means of support",—and by inserting after the word "dependents" in the twentieth and in the twenty-first lines, as so appearing, in each instance, the words:—or needy parents,—so that the first paragraph will read as follows:—If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war, or a pensioner of the United States who served under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any state or territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with or in the zone of any active Indian hostilities in any of the states or territories of the United States prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under sixteen years of age or for a needy father or mother, unless such condition is the result of his own criminal or wilful misconduct, or if

such person dies leaving a widow or minor children under sixteen years of age, or minor children over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, or a needy father or mother, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents or needy parents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement, and his said dependents or needy parents, in the case of his death, shall not be deemed ineligible to receive said support by reason of criminal or wilful misconduct on his part at any time during his lifetime; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, if he served in the war of the rebellion, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between said dates, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, or if he served in the world war and at the time of his decease was a legal resident of this commonwealth, his widow, who has a legal settlement and who has not remarried, and his minor children under sixteen years of age, and those over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Any crippled, blind or helpless child, whether a minor or adult, of a deceased person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, or in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, if such child is receiving a pension from the United States and is not otherwise eligible to receive relief under this section, shall also be eligible as aforesaid. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an infirmary or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect. (*Approved February 21, 1936.*)

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1936, the sum of \$227.50 was expended under Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled, "Spanish-American War Reimbursement Fund," leaving a balance of \$275.64 on December 1, 1936.

This department is indebted to Colonel Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon-General of the Commonwealth, for his continuance of the excellent service he has given in the past in his physical examinations of veterans of the various wars who seek Military Aid or admission to the Soldiers' Home in Chelsea, Mass. His diagnoses have enabled this department to determine the amount of aid needed.

Our agents made 7,199 examinations during 1935, as follows:

State and Military Aid cases	6,095
Hospital or Home Care (Chap. 340, Acts 1929)	205
Soldiers' Relief Appeals	222
Soldiers' Relief examinations under the provisions of Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	670
Burial cases	7
Total	<u>7,199</u>

PENSIONS

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1936, was 673, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930	6
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	3
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Original	17

Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, increase	1
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Original	67
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, increase	406
Widows Accrued	5
Widows, Act May 1, 1920 amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	7
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	1
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Original	4
Widows, Act June 28, 1934, World War	1
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War	86
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 3, 1899	6
Mothers	1
Fathers	2
Guardians	4
Reimbursement	25
Unendorsed Check	19
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	12
Total	673
Number of claims allowed	442
Number of claims rejected	50
Amount collected	\$50,348.38

On June 24, 1936, Congress passed the following Act, which increased the pensions of certain veterans of the regular establishment who were on the rolls March 19, 1933:

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, effective on the first day of the month following the month in which this Act is enacted, any veteran who is entitled to pension for service-connected disability under Veterans' Regulation Numbered 1 (a), as amended, part II, promulgated under Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, and who was on March 19, 1933, in receipt of compensation under the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, or pension under the general pension law, for such service-connected disability, shall be entitled to receive pension at 75 per centum of the compensation or the pension being paid on March 19, 1933, subject to the regulations issued under Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, pertaining to hospitalized and domiciled cases: Provided, That where the degree of such service-connected disability has increased or decreased since March 19, 1933, the per centum limitation shall be determined on the basis of the rate of compensation or pension payable for such changed condition under the laws applied to such veteran in effect on March 19, 1933: Provided further, That in no event shall the rate of pension provided in this Act exceed 75 per centum of the rate of pension for similar disability under Veterans' Regulation Numbered 1 (a), as amended, part 1. (Approved, June 24, 1936.)

QUOTATION FROM THE ADJUSTED COMPENSATION PAYMENT ACT 1936

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding the provisions of the World War Adjusted Compensation Act, as amended (U. S. C., 1934 edition title 38.11), the adjusted-service certificates issued under the authority of such Act are hereby declared to be immediately payable. Payments on account of such certificates shall be made in the manner herein-after provided upon application therefor to the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe, and upon surrender of the certificates and all rights hereunder (with or without the consent of the beneficiaries thereof). The payment in each case shall be in an amount equal to the face value of the certificates, except that if, at the time of application for payment under this Act, the principal and unpaid interest accrued prior to October 1, 1931, with respect to any loan upon any such certificate has not been paid in full by the veteran (whether or not the loan has

matured), then the Administrator shall (1) pay or discharge such unpaid principal and interest as is necessary to make the certificate available for payment under this Act, (2) deduct such unpaid principal and so much of such unpaid interest as accrued prior to October 1, 1931, from the amount of the face value of the certificate, and (3) certify to the Secretary of the Treasury as payable an amount equal to the difference between the face value of the certificate and the amount so deducted.

Sec. 4. The amount certified pursuant to section 1 of this Act shall be paid to the veteran or his estate on or after June 15, 1936, by the Secretary of the Treasury by the issuance of bonds of the United States, registered in the name of the veteran only, in denominations of \$50 having a total face value up to the highest multiple of \$50 in the amount certified as due the veteran, and the difference between the amount certified as due the veteran and the face amount of the bonds so issued shall be paid to the veteran or his estate by the Secretary of the Treasury out of the fund created by section 505 of the World War Adjusted Compensation Act, as amended. The bonds shall be dated June 15, 1936, and shall mature on June 15, 1945, but shall be redeemable at the option of the veteran or his estate at any time, at such places, including post offices, as the Secretary of the Treasury may designate. Such bonds shall be issued under the authority and subject to the provisions of the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended, and shall not be transferable, assignable, subject to attachment, levy, or seizure under any legal or equitable process and shall be payable only to the veteran or, in case of death or incompetence of the veteran, to the representative of his estate. Interest on each bond issued hereunder shall accrue at the rate of 3 per centum per annum from June 15, 1936, to date of maturity or payment of the principal of the bond, whichever is earlier, and will be paid with such principal: Provided, however, That no interest will be paid on any bond redeemed prior to June 15, 1937. The provisions of this section shall be carried out subject to regulations of the Secretary of the Treasury to be issued from time to time to effectuate the purposes of this Act.

Sec. 5. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to redeem from the United States Government life insurance fund all adjusted-service certificates held by that fund on account of loans made thereon, and to pay to United States Government life insurance fund the amount of the outstanding liens against such certificates, including all interest due or accrued, together with such amounts as may be due under subdivision (m) of section 502 of the World War Adjusted Compensation Act, as amended. The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to make such payment by issuing to the United States Government life insurance fund, bonds of the United States which shall bear interest at the rate of 4½ per centum per annum. No such bonds shall mature or be callable until the expiration of a period of at least ten years from date of issue, except that any such bond shall be redeemed by the Secretary of the Treasury and the principal and accrued interest thereon paid to the United States Government life insurance fund at any time upon certification by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs that the amount represented by such bond is required to meet current liabilities. Bonds issued for the purposes of this section shall be issued under the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended subject to the provisions of this section.

Our appreciation is extended to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Widows' and Dependents' Claims Service, and Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, Washington, D. C., and to Colonel William J. Blake of the U. S. Veterans' Administration Facility at Boston, Mass., and their entire staff for their consideration and assistance given to this department in all matters coming within their jurisdiction.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1937



MASS.
DOCS.
COLL.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,

State House, Boston, January 14, 1938.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

Complying with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1936, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1937.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,

Commissioner.

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors, and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 238 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1936,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1937—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$52,408.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	2,002.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	37,920.50
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Ins. Service..	11,943.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War	124,606.61
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	192.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Ins. Ser.	641.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	2,945.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War	102,356.44
Burial Expenses of soldiers and their dependents	13,056.19

Total for 1936	\$348,071.74
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These figures show a decrease of \$63,809.55 from the total expended for the year 1935. This decrease is due to the restoration of Spanish War pensions and the payment of adjusted compensation to World War veterans by the Federal Government, thereby enabling many of them to provide for themselves without assistance from the State, and is also due to the death of veterans and certain dependents.

State Aid

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Civil War, for 1936, was 541, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 28; decrease, 15	Children, 17
Widows, 496; decrease, 108	
Total	541
Net decrease of recipients during 1936, 123	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.87+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1936, was 21, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 9; decrease, 1	Widows, 11; increase, 1
Wives, 1	
Total	21
Average cost to State per person aided, \$95.33+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Spanish War, for 1936, was 394, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 157; decrease, 86	Widows, 219
Wives, 4; decrease, 5	Mothers, 14; decrease, 5
Total	394
Net decrease of recipients during 1936, 96	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.24+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1936, was 135, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 67; decrease, 11	Widows, 60; decrease, 7
Wives, 2	Mothers, 5; increase, 3
Army Nurses, 0; decrease, 1	Children, 1
Total	135
Net decrease of recipients during 1936, 22	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$88.46+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1936, was 1,380, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 441; decrease, 76	Fathers, 5; increase, 2
Wives, 50; decrease, 7	Children, 3; decrease, 15
Widows, 809; increase, 75	Army Nurses, 1
Mothers, 71; increase, 8	
Total	1,380
Net decrease of recipients during 1936, 18	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.29+	

Military Aid

Military Aid in the amount of \$106,135.44, a decrease of \$28,399.99 from 1935, was disbursed as follows:

Civil War soldiers, 0; decrease, 1	
Spanish War soldiers, 3; decrease, 10	
Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 7; decrease, 31	
Mexican Border Service soldiers, 14; increase, 1	
German War soldiers, 992; increase, 41	
German War Army Nurses, 1	
<i>Spanish War:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	132.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$66.25	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	60.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$60.00	
<i>Philippine Ins. Service:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	641.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$91.64+	
<i>Mexican Border Service:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	2,660.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$204.61+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	285.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$285.00	
<i>German War Service:</i> —Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	101,751.44
Average cost to State per person aided, \$102.88+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	605.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$151.25	
Total	\$106,135.44

Burials

During the year 1936, 150 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$13,056.19, an increase of \$479.08 over 1935. They are classified as follows:

Civil War

Soldiers	4	Decrease	8
Widows	47	Increase	7
Total	51		

Indian Campaigns

Soldiers	0	Decrease	1
Widows	0	Decrease	1

Spanish War

Soldiers	15	Decrease	5
Wives	1	Decrease	1
Widows	2		
Mothers	2	Increase	1
Total	20		

Philippine Insurrection

Soldiers	7	Decrease	3
Wives	1	Increase	1
Mothers	1	Increase	1
Total	9		

Mexican Border

Soldiers	0	Decrease	2
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German War

Soldiers	22	Increase	3
Wives	10		
Widows	3	Decrease	1
Mothers	12	Increase	7
Fathers	5	Increase	1
Children	18	Increase	1
Total	70		

Average cost to State per burial, \$87.04+

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND
WIDOWS UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1936, to November 30, 1937:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	75	75		\$2,036.00
January	79	79		2,228.25
February	76	76		2,152.00
March	76	76		2,152.32
April	77	77		2,143.00

May		77	77	2,157.00
June		76	76	2,107.00
July		76	76	2,132.00
August		74	74	2,105.00
September		74	74	2,187.00
October	1	74	75	2,240.00
November	1	79	80	2,341.00

Total \$25,980.57

These figures show a decrease of \$1,377.49 from 1936.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures for this department for 1937, were as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of Special Care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$12,880.48
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	752.76
State Aid refund	120.00
	\$13,753.24

Expenditures

Personal Services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks, and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses	\$43,799.07
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burials of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1936, paid in 1937	348,071.74
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	25,980.57
	\$417,851.38

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1936, were approximately \$92,917,853.38.

Financial Statement Verified
Approved

GEO. E. MURPHY,
Comptroller

LEGISLATION

Chapter 196, Acts of 1937, forbids the giving of information to the public in relation to the names of veterans and their dependents assisted under the State and Military Aid law and the Soldiers' Relief law. This Act is printed below.

(CHAPTER 196)

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE DISCLOSURE BY MUNICIPALITIES OR OFFICERS THEREOF OF THE NAMES OF RECIPIENTS OF STATE AID, MILITARY AID OR SOLDIERS' RELIEF.

Chapter forty of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section fifty-one, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 51.* No town or officer thereof shall publish in any report for general distribution to the public or to its citizens the names of persons assisted in any way by the board of public welfare of the town or publish or disclose in any manner to others than officers of any city, town or other governmental agency or the duly authorized agents of such officers the names of any persons residing in such town who received aid under chapter one hundred and fifteen, except that a duly incorporated charitable corporation shall be informed, upon its request, as to whether or not any designated person has received aid under said chapter one hundred and fifteen.

Chapter 273, Acts of 1937, extended the date prior to which widows of World War veterans must have been married to their soldier husbands to be eligible to receive State Aid from “on or before January 1, 1928,” to “on or before January 1, 1933.” This Chapter further amended the State burial law so that the cases of World War wives and widows married to their soldier husbands on or before January 1, 1933, are eligible to be considered for the State burial allowance. This Act is printed below.

(CHAPTER 273)

AN ACT RELATIVE TO THE ELIGIBILITY OF WIDOWS OF CERTAIN WAR VETERANS TO RECEIVE STATE AID AND OF WIVES OR WIDOWS OF SUCH VETERANS TO BE BURIED AT PUBLIC EXPENSE.

SECTION 1. Section seven of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as appearing in the Tercentenary Edition, is hereby amended by striking out, in the sixteenth and seventeenth lines, the word “twenty-eight” and inserting in place thereof the word:—thirty-three,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and if the service of the soldier was in any Indian war or campaign unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to January first, nineteen hundred and thirty-three.

SECTION 2. Section nineteen of said chapter one hundred and fifteen, as most recently amended by section one of chapter three hundred and thirty-six of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-four, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the thirty-ninth and fortieth lines, the word “twenty-eight” and inserting in place thereof the word:—thirty-three,—so as to read as follows:—*Section 19.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town or, in Boston, the soldiers’ relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the board of public welfare or be employed by said board, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who

served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or in the Indian campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after February fourteenth, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent father or mother, and the bodies of army nurses entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses, and the bodies of dependent children eighteen years of age or under, of such soldier or sailor, if such soldier or sailor and his wife, or his widow, be without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, eighteen hundred and ninety, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow, in receipt of a pension under the act of congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to September first, nineteen hundred and twenty-two; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him on or before January first, nineteen hundred and thirty-three. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1937, the sum of \$215.50 was expended under Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund," leaving a balance of \$378.90, on December 1, 1937.

Colonel Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon General of this Commonwealth, is, as always, rendering excellent service in his medical examinations of veterans of the various wars who seek Military Aid or admission to the Soldiers' Home, Chelsea, Mass. His reports as to the nature and extent of their disabilities have enabled this department to determine the amount of aid needed in these cases, and we are indebted to him for his cooperation.

Our agents made 7,107 examinations during 1936, as follows:

State and Military Aid cases	6,444
Hospital or Home Care (Chap. 340, Acts 1929)	134
Soldiers' Relief Appeals	152
Soldiers' Relief examinations under the provisions of Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	361
Burial cases	11
Hospital cases	4
Pension cases	1

Total	7,107
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PENSIONS

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1937, was 816, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930	1
Soldiers, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars, Original	2
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Original	22
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Increase	5
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Original	40
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Increase	588
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Original	1
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Increase	3
Widows Accrued	5
Widows, Act May 1, 1920 amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	2
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	1
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Original	1
Widows, Act June 28, 1934, World War	1
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War	100
Widows, Act August 16, 1937, World War	2
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 3, 1899	4
Mothers	1
Fathers	1
Guardians	1
Reimbursement	21
Unendorsed Check	9
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	5
Total	816
Number of claims allowed	688
Number of claims rejected	70
Amount collected	\$74,832.81

Up to date, a number of claims filed during the year have not been reached for final action by the Veterans' Administration.

ACT OF AUGUST 16, 1937

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding the provisions of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934 (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 38, secs. 503-507), as amended by section 1, Public Law Numbered 844, Seventy-fourth Congress, June 29, 1936 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 508), in no event shall the widow, child, or children otherwise entitled to compensation under the provisions of that Act be denied such compensation if the veteran's death resulted from a disease or disability not service connected, and at the time of the veteran's death he was receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension or retirement pay for 20 per centum disability or more presumptively or directly incurred in or aggravated by service in the World War; Provided, That a widow shall not be entitled to compensation under this section unless a child was born of her marriage to the veteran: Provided further, That except as provided in section 6 of this Act, compensation authorized by this section shall not be payable effective prior to the receipt of application therefor in the Veterans' Administration in such form as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, but in no event shall compensation herein authorized be effective prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 2. That section 4 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934 (48 Stat. 1282; U. S. C., title 38, sec. 506), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"That for the purpose of awarding compensation under the provisions of this Act, as amended, service connection of disability and degree thereof at date of death may be determined in any case where claim has been or is filed by the widow, child, or children of a deceased World War veteran, except that proof of 20 per centum disability or more at date of death and evidence as to service connection must be filed no later than three years after date of enactment of this Act, or the date of death, whichever is the later, and evidence required in connection with any claim must be submitted in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs."

SEC. 3. That effective on the first day of the month next following the date of enactment of this Act, the rates of death compensation payable under the provisions of existing laws or veterans' regulations to a surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father, now on the rolls or hereafter to be placed on the rolls as a surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father of any World War veteran who died as the result of injury or disease incurred in or aggravated by active military or naval service in the World War, shall be as follows:

Widow, age under fifty years, \$30; widow, age fifty to sixty-five years, \$37.50; widow, age sixty-five years or over, \$45; widow with one child, \$10 additional for such child up to ten years of age, increased to \$15 from age ten (with \$8 for each additional child up to ten years of age, increased to \$13 from age ten) (subject to apportionment regulations); no widow but one child, \$20; no widow but two children, \$33 (equally divided); no widow but three children, \$46 (equally divided); (with \$8 for each additional child; total amount to be equally divided); dependent mother or father, \$45 (or both) \$25 each. As to the widow, child, or children, the total compensation payable under this paragraph shall not exceed \$75. The amount of the compensation herein authorized shall be paid in the event the monthly payment of compensation under Veterans' Regulation Numbered 1 (g) and the monthly payment of yearly renewable term, automatic, or United States Government life (converted) insurance does not aggregate or exceed the amount of compensation herein authorized.

As to the surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father on the rolls on the date of enactment of this Act, any increased award herein authorized shall be effective from the date of enactment of this Act and in all other cases, except as provided in section 6 of this Act, effective dates of awards shall be governed by the provisions of veterans' regulations promulgated under Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933.

SEC. 4. That on and after the date of enactment of this Act, for the purpose of payment of compensation under the laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, the term "widow of a World War veteran" shall mean a woman—

(a) (1) Who was married to the person who served prior to or during the period of service on which the claim is based; or

(2) Who was married to the person who served prior to July 3, 1931; or

(3) Who was married to the person who served at any time, provided a child was born of such marriage.

(b) No compensation shall be paid to a widow unless there was continuous cohabitation with the person who served from the date of marriage to date of death, except where there was a separation which was due to the misconduct of or procured by the person who served, without the fault of the widow.

(c) All marriages shall be proven as valid marriages according to the law of the place where the parties resided at the time of marriage, or of the law of the place where the ceremony was performed at the time thereof, or the law of the place where the parties resided when the right to pension hereunder accrued.

(d) Compensation shall not be allowed a widow who has remarried either once or more than once, and where compensation is properly discontinued by reason of remarriage it shall not thereafter be recommended.

SEC. 5. That notwithstanding any provision of law or veterans' regulation, except as to emergency officers' retirement pay, reenlistment in the military or naval service on or after November 12, 1918, and before July 2, 1921, where there was prior service between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, shall be considered as World War service under the laws providing benefits for World War veterans and their dependents.

SEC. 6. That notwithstanding any provision of law or veterans' regulation, awards of death compensation shall be effective as of the date of death of the World War veteran if claim is filed within one year after the death of such veteran.

SEC. 7. That a new section is hereby added to title III, World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended (U. S. C., title 38), to be known as section 312, and to read as follows:

"SEC. 312. Without prejudice to any other cause of disability, the permanent loss of the use of both feet, of both hands, or of both eyes, or of one foot and one hand, or of one foot and one eye, or of one hand and one eye, or the loss of hearing of both ears, or the organic loss of speech, shall be deemed total permanent disability for insurance purposes. This section shall be deemed to be in effect on and after April 6, 1917, and shall apply only to automatic insurance, yearly renewable term insurance, and United States Government life (converted) insurance issued prior to December 15, 1936."

SEC. 8. That where an incompetent World War veteran, receiving disability compensation under title III of the Act of March 28, 1934 (Public Law Numbered 141, Seventy-third Congress), disappears, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, in his discretion, may pay to the dependents of such veteran the amount of compensation payable to dependents of deceased veterans who die from war service-connected disabilities: Provided, That in no event shall payment made under this Act in any claim exceed the amount of compensation payable at the time of the veteran's disappearance.

SEC. 9. The penal and forfeiture provisions relating to pensions and compensation contained in Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, shall be applicable to claims for compensation under Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended by Public Law Numbered 844, Seventy-fourth Congress, and this Act.

On August 25, 1937, an Act was passed which provided increased benefits for certain veterans of the Indian Wars on the rolls for either age or disability.

The veterans who were in receipt of pension payments for total disability were automatically increased to the rate of \$55.00 per month. If a veteran of the Indian Wars is totally and permanently disabled and in need of the care and assistance of another person, he is eligible to apply for a higher rate of pension, which under this Act is seventy-two dollars per month. No formal application is necessary; a written request to the Veterans' Administration signed by the veteran together with medical evidence showing the condition of the veteran, is the necessary requirement.

The following are the rates of pension to which any veteran of the Indian Wars is entitled for age:

Age 62	\$25.00
Age 68	35.00
Age 72	45.00
Age 75	55.00

Those veterans seventy-five years of age who are being maintained in the United States Soldiers' Home or any National or State Soldiers' Home shall not receive a pension in excess of \$50.00 monthly.

The following are the rates of pension that a veteran of the Indian Wars is entitled to receive for disability:

10 per cent disability	\$20.00
25 per cent disability	25.00
50 per cent disability	35.00
75 per cent disability	45.00
Total disability	55.00

Those veterans who are totally disabled and are being maintained in the United States Soldiers' Home or any National or State Soldiers' Home shall not receive pension in excess of \$50.00 monthly. In conducting the review, especially in the claims of veterans receiving pension for the lower degrees of disability, care will be taken to determine whether the veteran is entitled to a greater pension for increased age.

The adjustment to the \$72.00 rate for disability requiring the need of regular aid or attendance of another person will not be automatically made. Public No. 355 provides that this rate shall be payable from the date of receipt in the Veterans' Administration of the evidence showing the requisite condition or the date of filing application therefor on or after August 25, 1937, whichever is the later date.

Veterans rated ten per cent and twenty-five per cent will be reexamined and their claims reviewed.

The following was approved on August 31, 1937.

Service connection compensation for encephalitis lethargica in effect March 19, 1933, properly granted in accordance with the then prevailing practice, and subsequently discontinued, will be restored under Section 27, Public No. 141, 73d Congress, and continued.

We wish to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Widows' and Dependents' Claims Service, and Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, Washington, D. C., for their excellent cooperation and kind consideration of our claims and correspondence, which have enabled us to assist and advise veterans and their dependents in the matter of titles to pension in accordance with the Acts now in effect. We are also grateful to Colonel William J. Blake of the local office of the United States Veterans' Administration, and his staff, for their assistance and cooperation.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1938



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,

State House, Boston, January 16, 1939.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1937, and that portion relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1938.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,

Commissioner

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 233 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1937,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1938—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War.....	\$41,673.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns.....	2,028.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain.....	36,305.75
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Ins. Service.....	11,213.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border Service.....	40.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, German War.....	137,605.55
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain.....	220.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Ins. Service.....	655.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service.....	2,331.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, German War.....	115,991.92
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	18,318.21

Total for 1937\$366,381.93

These figures show an increase of \$18,310.19 over 1936, which is due to the increased amount required for World War veterans because of their disabilities.

State Aid

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Civil War, for 1937, was 421, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 18; decrease, 10	Children, 14; decrease, 3
Widows, 389; decrease, 107	
Total	421

Net decrease of recipients during 1937, 120

Average cost to State per person aided, \$98.98+

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1937, was 20, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 7; decrease, 2	Widows, 12; increase, 1
Wives, 1	
Total	20

Net decrease of recipients during 1937, 1

Average cost to State per person aided, \$101.40

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Spanish War, for 1937, was 375, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 135; decrease, 22	Widows, 222; increase, 3
Wives, 3; decrease, 1	Mothers, 14
	Children, 1; increase, 1
Total	375
Net decrease of recipients during 1937, 19	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.81+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1937, was 131, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 53; decrease, 14	Widows, 70; increase, 10
Wives, 1; decrease, 1	Mothers, 6; increase, 1
	Children, 1
Total	131
Net decrease of recipients during 1937, 4	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$85.59+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Mexican Border Service, for 1937, was 1, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 1; increase, 1	
Total	1
Net increase of recipients during 1937, 1	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$40	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1937, was 1,420, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 354; decrease, 87	Fathers, 2; decrease, 3
Wives, 42; decrease, 8	Children, 2; decrease, 1
Widows, 948; increase, 139	Army Nurses, 1
Mothers, 71	
Total	1,420
Net increase of recipients during 1937, 40	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$96.90+	

Military Aid

Military Aid in the amount of \$119,198.42, an increase of \$13,062.98, over 1936, was disbursed as follows:

Spanish War soldiers, 3	
Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 5; decrease, 2	
Mexican Border Service soldiers, 15; increase, 1	
German War soldiers, 924; decrease, 68	
German War Army Nurses, 1	
Yeoman F., 1; increase, 1	
<i>Spanish War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$220.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$73.33+	
<i>Philippine Insurrection Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	655.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$131.00	
<i>Mexican Border Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	2,181.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$145.43+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	150.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$150.00	
<i>German War Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	114,559.92
Average cost to State per person aided, \$123.71+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	1,432.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$204.57+	
Total	\$119,198.42

Burials

During the year 1937, 209 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$18,318.21, an increase of \$5,262.02 over 1936. They are classified as follows:

Civil War:

Soldiers	2	Decrease	2
Widows	33	Decrease	14
Total	35		

Spanish War:

Soldiers	22	Increase	7
Wives	0	Decrease	1
Widows	1	Decrease	1
Mothers	1	Decrease	1
Fathers	1	Increase	1
Total	25		

Philippine Insurrection:

Soldiers	9	Increase	2
Wives	0	Decrease	1
Widows	1	Increase	1
Mothers	0	Decrease	1
Total	10		

German War:

Soldiers	98	Increase	76
Wives	5	Decrease	5
Widows	3		
Mothers	9	Decrease	3
Fathers	2	Decrease	3
Children	21	Increase	3
Yeoman F.	1	Increase	1
Total	139		

Net increase of burial claims in 1937, 59

Average cost to State per person aided, \$87.64+

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES
AND WIDOWS, UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1937, to November 30, 1938:

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	1	78	79	\$2,361.00
January	1	80	81	2,294.00
February	2	77	79	2,267.57
March	1	76	77	2,227.00
April	1	83	84	2,419.00
May		86	86	2,609.50
June		82	82	2,351.00

July	80	80	2,261.66
August	79	79	2,214.00
September	74	74	2,056.00
October	75	75	2,175.16
November 1	74	75	2,140.66
Total			\$27,376.55

These figures show an increase of \$1,395.98 over 1937.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures for this department for 1938, were as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of Special Care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$13,645.04
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932....	387.70
	\$14,032.74

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses.....	\$44,334.90
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1937, paid in 1938.....	366,381.93
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	27,376.55
	\$438,093.38

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1937, were approximately \$93,738,979.75.

Financial Statement Verified
Approved.

GEO. E. MURPHY,
Comptroller.

LEGISLATION, 1938

Prior to the passage of Chapter 316, Acts of 1938, Civil War widows were not eligible under the State Aid law unless they were married to their soldier husbands prior to June 27, 1890, and Spanish War widows and Philippine Insurrection widows were not eligible unless they married their soldier husbands prior to September 1, 1922. This Chapter changed the marriage date to, "prior to June 27, 1905," for Civil War widows, and to, "prior to September 1, 1930," for Spanish War widows and Philippine Insurrection widows. It also changed the marriage date for Civil War wives and widows under the State burial law from "prior to June 27, 1890," to "prior to June 27, 1905," and for Spanish War widows and Philippine Insurrection widows from, "prior to September 1, 1922," to "prior to September 1, 1930." This Chapter is printed below.

Chap. 316—*An Act relative to the eligibility of wives and widows of certain veterans to certain benefits.*

SECTION 1. Chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws is hereby amended by striking out section seven, as amended by section one of chapter two

hundred and seventy-three of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-seven, and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 7.* The wife of a discharged soldier or sailor shall not be held to belong to any of the foregoing classes, nor shall she receive state aid unless, if the service of the soldier or sailor was in the war with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition, she was married to him before his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, before September first, nineteen hundred and thirty, and if his service was in the civil war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and five, and if the service of the soldier was in any Indian war or campaign unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from such service, and, if his widow, prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and if the service of the soldier or sailor was on the Mexican border or in the world war unless she was, if his wife, married to him prior to his final discharge from the service or release from active duty therein, and, if his widow, prior to January first, nineteen hundred and thirty-three.

SECTION 2. Said chapter one hundred and fifteen is hereby further amended by striking out section nineteen, as amended by section two of said chapter two hundred and seventy-three, and inserting in place thereof the following:—*Section 19.* The mayor of each city and the selectmen of each town, or, in Boston, the soldiers' relief commissioner, shall designate a burial agent, who shall not be one of the board of public welfare or be employed by said board, and who shall, under regulations established by the commissioner, cause properly to be interred the body of any honorably discharged soldier or sailor who served in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion, or in the Indian campaigns if he died in receipt of a pension from the United States, or during the war between the United States and Spain or the Philippine insurrection after February fourteenth eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and prior to July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the Mexican border service of nineteen hundred and sixteen and of nineteen hundred and seventeen, or in the world war; provided, that the soldier or sailor died in such service or after an honorable discharge therefrom or release from active duty therein; and shall also so inter the body of his wife, widow or dependent father or mother, and the bodies of army nurses, entitled to state aid under section six, if they die without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses, and the bodies of dependent children, eighteen years of age or under, of such soldier or sailor, if such soldier or sailor and his wife, or his widow, be without sufficient means to defray funeral expenses; but no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the civil war shall be entitled to the benefits of this section unless she was married to him prior to June twenty-seventh, nineteen hundred and five, and no wife or widow of any soldier of the Indian campaigns unless she was married to him prior to March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and unless she was, if his widow, in receipt of a pension under the act of congress of March fourth, nineteen hundred and seventeen, and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Spanish war, or the Philippine insurrection, unless she was married to him prior to September first, nineteen hundred and thirty; and no wife or widow of any soldier or sailor of the Mexican border service or of the world war unless she was married to him on or before January first, nineteen hundred and thirty-three. If an interment has taken place without the knowledge of the burial agent, application may be made to him within thirty days after the date of death, or after final interment if the soldier or sailor dies in the world war service; and if upon investigation he shall find that the deceased was within the provisions of this section and the rules of the commissioner, he may certify the same as provided in the following section. *Approved May 12, 1938.*

Chapter 24, Acts of 1938, a copy of which is printed below, authorized and directed the Commissioner of State Aid and Pensions to investigate the subject

matter of current house documents 272 and 273, relative to paying State Aid and burial allowances in the cases of certain persons who served in the military service of the Commonwealth during the World War or during the Boston police strike, and it directed him to report to the General Court the results of his investigation. I have investigated this matter, and have made a report to the General Court, with recommendations, as directed.

Chap. 24.—*Resolve providing for an investigation relative to furnishing state aid to, and providing for the payment of burial expenses of, certain persons who served in the military service of the Commonwealth.*

Resolved, That the commissioner of state aid and pensions is hereby authorized and directed to investigate the subject matter of current house documents numbered two hundred and seventy-two and two hundred and seventy-three, relative to furnishing state aid to, and providing for the payment of burial expenses of, certain persons who served in the military service of the commonwealth during the world war or during the Boston police strike, so called. Said commissioner shall report to the general court the results of his investigation hereunder, and his recommendations, if any, together with drafts of legislation necessary to carry said recommendations into effect, by filing the same with the clerk of the house of representatives on or before the first Wednesday of December in the current year. (*Approved May 17, 1938.*)

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1938, the sum of \$280.45 was expended under Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled, "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund", leaving a balance of \$417.21 on December 1, 1938.

Col. Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon General of this Commonwealth, has co-operated with this department in his medical examinations of the veterans of the various wars who seek Military Aid or admission to the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts at Chelsea. His diagnoses have enabled this office to determine the amount of aid needed in these cases, and we are indebted to him for his assistance.

Our agents made 7,563 examinations during 1937, as follows:

State and Military Aid cases	6,001
State and Military Aid cases in mental hospitals	742
Hospital or Home Care (Chapter 340, Acts of 1929)	162
Soldiers' Relief appeals	233
Soldiers' Relief special examinations (Chap. 270, Acts of 1932)	363
Burial cases	8
Hospital cases	54
Total	7,563

At the request of the Governor, this office investigated the cases of veterans who were inmates of mental hospitals in this State, with a view to having them transferred to United States Veterans' Hospitals, and the number investigated is included in the figures given above.

PENSIONS

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1938, was 990, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act June 9, 1930	2
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Original	14
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Increase	6
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Original	51

Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Increase	462
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Original	2
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Increase	3
Soldiers, Act May 24, 1938	309
Soldiers, General Law	1
Widows Accrued	7
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	10
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	1
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Original	2
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War	70
Widows, Act August 16, 1937	5
Widows, Act May 13, 1938	2
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 3, 1899	2
Mothers	4
Fathers	2
Guardians	8
Reimbursement	13
Unendorsed check	7
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	7
Total	990
Number of claims allowed	933
Number of claims rejected	53
Amount collected	\$55,462.81

Up to date, a number of claims filed during the year have not been adjudicated by the Veterans' Administration.

The Act of May 13, 1938, grants a widow of a World War veteran a pension if the veteran was receiving a ten per cent rating or more at the time of his death for disabilities or disease incurred while in the service (or if not receiving a ten per cent rating, if she could prove that veteran was disabled to that extent from disabilities or disease incurred while in the service), but his death need not be caused from a service origin. The marriage date of World War widows has been extended to May 13, 1938. A copy of this Act is printed below.

(Public—No. 514—75th Congress)

Chapter 214—3d Session—H. R. 9725

AN ACT—To liberalize the provisions of existing laws governing death-compensation benefits for widows and children of World War veterans, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding the provisions of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934 (U.S.C., title 38, secs. 503-507), as amended by section 1, Public Law Numbered 844, Seventy-fourth Congress, June 29, 1936 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 508), and section 1, Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 509), in no event shall the widow, child, or children otherwise entitled to compensation under the provisions of that Act be denied such compensation if the veteran's death resulted from a disease or disability not service connected, and at the time of the veteran's death he was receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension, or retirement pay for 10-per-centum disability or more presumptively or directly incurred in or aggravated by service in the World War: *Provided,*

That except as provided in section 6 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 472d), compensation authorized by this section shall not be payable effective prior to the receipt of application therefor in the Veterans' Administration in such form as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, but in no event shall compensation herein authorized be effective prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

SECTION 2. Section 4 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934, as amended by section 2 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 506), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 4. For the purpose of awarding compensation under the provisions of this Act, as amended, service connection of disability and degree thereof at date of death may be determined in any case where claim has been or is filed by the widow, child, or children of a deceased World War veteran, except that proof of 10-per-centum disability or more at date of death and evidence as to service connection may be filed at any time after date of enactment of this Act, or the date of death, and evidence required in connection with any claim must be submitted in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs."

SECTION 3. On and after the date of enactment of this Act for the purpose of payment of compensation under the laws administered by the Veterans' Administration, the term "widow of a World War veteran" shall mean a woman who was married prior to the date of enactment of this Act to the person who served: *Provided*, That all marriages shall be proven as valid marriages according to the law of the place where the parties resided at the time of marriage or the law of the place where the parties resided when the right to compensation accrued. Compensation shall not be allowed a widow who has remarried either once or more than once, and where compensation is properly discontinued by reason of remarriage it shall not thereafter be recommenced. No compensation shall be paid to a widow unless there was continuous cohabitation with the person who served from the date of marriage to date of death, except where there was a separation which was due to the misconduct of or procured by the person who served, without the fault of the widow.

SECTION 4. Sections 1 and 4 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937 (U. S. C., title 38, secs. 509 and 472c, respectively), are hereby repealed. (*Approved May 13, 1938.*)

On May 24, 1938, an Act was passed by Congress granting veterans of the Spanish American War, who were honorably discharged and who served ninety days or over between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, (or who, having served less than ninety days, were discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty) a pension of \$60 on reaching the age of sixty-five years. Also veterans who are totally and permanently disabled and need the care and assistance of another person are eligible to receive a pension of \$100 per month. Up to that time a Spanish War veteran received a pension of \$30 per month at the age of sixty-five unless he was rated fifty per cent or higher on account of disability; and \$72 per month if he was totally and permanently disabled and in need of the care and assistance of another person. A copy of this Act is printed below.

Act of May 24, 1938

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all persons who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the War with

Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or the China Relief Expedition between the dates of April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, both dates inclusive, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, or who, having served less than ninety days, were discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty, upon reaching the age of sixty-five years shall, upon making proof of such fact, be placed upon the pension roll and entitled to receive a pension of \$60 a month: *Provided*, That all leaves of absence and furloughs under General Orders, Numbered 130, August 29, 1898, War Department, shall be included in determining the period of pensionable service: *Provided further*, That the provisions, limitations and benefits of this section be, and hereby are, extended to and shall include any woman who served honorably as a nurse, chief nurse, or superintendent of the Nurse Corps under contract for ninety days or more between April 21, 1898, and February 2, 1901, inclusive, and to any such nurse, regardless of length of service, who was released from service before the expiration of the ninety days because of disability contracted by her while in the service in line of duty.

SECTION 2. Any soldier, sailor, or marine, or nurse with service as defined in section 1 of this Act now on the pension roll or who may be hereafter entitled to a pension under existing laws, or under this Act on account of his service during the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or China Relief Expedition, who is now or hereafter may become, on account of age or physical or mental disabilities, helpless or blind, or so nearly helpless or blind as to need or require the regular aid and attendance of another person, shall be given a rate of \$100 a month.

SECTION 3. That the pension or increased rate of pension herein provided for shall commence from the date of filing application therefor after the approval of this Act in such form as may be prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, provided they are entitled to a pension under the provisions of this Act, and the issue of a check in payment of a pension for which the execution and submission of a voucher was not required shall constitute payment in the event of the death of the pensioner on or after the last day of the period covered by such check, and it shall not be cancelled, but shall become an asset of the estate of the deceased pensioner.

SECTION 4. Nothing contained in this Act shall be held to affect or diminish the additional pension to those on the roll designated as the Army and Navy Medal of Honor Roll, as provided by the Act of April 27, 1916, but any pension or increase of pension herein provided for shall be in addition thereto: *Provided*, That no one while an inmate of the United States Soldiers' Home or of any National or State Soldiers' Home, and while the Government of the United States contributes toward defraying the expense incurred in providing such inmate with domiciliary care, shall be paid more than \$50 per month under this Act: *Provided further*, That any pension paid to any person under the provisions of this Act shall be in lieu of any other pension to which he might be entitled to under any other war service pension Act.

SECTION 5. That nothing contained in the provisions of this Act shall be construed to diminish or reduce any pension heretofore granted.

The Act of June 22, 1938, allows members of the Navy and Marine Corps, who enlisted between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902, and who were discharged for misrepresenting their age, to be considered honorably discharged.

The Act is printed below:

Public, No. 697 (75th Cong., 3d sess., June 22, 1938) provides that members of the Navy and Marine Corps who enlisted between April 21, 1898, and July 4, 1902,

and who were discharged for fraudulent enlistment because of minority or misrepresentation of age and who were otherwise entitled to honorable discharge, shall be held and considered to have been honorably discharged from the Navy or Marine Corps on the date of actual separation therefrom. Members of the Army similarly situated were granted similar relief by Public, No. 108 (75th Cong., May 25, 1937).

On June 28, 1938, an Act was passed which grants an increase in pension to dependents of any persons who served prior to April 21, 1898, and died while in the service or from a disability or disease incurred while in the service. A copy of this Act is printed below.

Act of June 28, 1938

Public, No. 758 (75th Cong., 3d sess., June 28, 1938) provides that dependents of members of the armed forces who served prior to April 21, 1898 (commencement of Spanish-American War), who died while in such military service or by reason of disease or disability incurred therein, shall receive pensions at the rates provided by paragraph III, part II, Veterans Regulation No. 1—Series. These rates apply to dependents of persons who served subsequent to April 21, 1898, during other than a War period.

The rates are printed below:

Widow under 50 years of age, \$22.

Widow 50 years to 65 years of age, \$26.

Widow over 65 years of age, \$30.

Widow with one child, \$7 additional for such child up to 10 years of age, increased to \$11 from age 10 (with \$6 for each additional child up to 10 years of age, increased to \$9 from age 10).

No widow but one child, \$15.

No widow but two children, \$24 (equally divided)

No widow but three children, \$34 (equally divided) (with \$6 for each additional child; total amount to be equally divided).

Dependent mother or father, \$15; or both, \$11 each.

The total pension payable under this paragraph may not exceed \$56.

Where such benefits would otherwise exceed \$56 the amount of \$56 may be apportioned as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe.

However, the widow, as described immediately below, or the surviving widow of any person who died as a result of injury or disease incurred in or aggravated by active military or naval service or Coast Guard service in line of duty and who was, on March 20, 1933, being paid, except by fraud, mistake, or misrepresentation, a pension under the general or service pension laws existing prior to that date, at a rate in excess of the rate authorized herein, may be entitled until death or remarriage to be paid a pension at the rate authorized prior to March 20, 1933, under prior laws, provided it may not exceed \$30 per month.

For the purpose of this benefit the term "widow" of a peacetime veteran means a person who was married to the veteran prior to the expiration of 10 years subsequent to his discharge from the enlistment during which the injury or disease, on account of which claim is filed, was incurred.

The term "child" for the payment of benefits, described herein means a legitimate child or a child legally adopted, unmarried, and under the age of 18 years, unless prior to reaching the age of 18 the child becomes permanently incapable of self-support by reason of mental or physical defect, except that the payment of pension may be further continued after the age of 18 years and until completion

of education or training in an approved school, but not after such child reaches the age of 21 years.

The thanks of this department are due to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Washington, D. C., and his assistants, Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claim Service, and Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Dependents' Claims Service, for their cooperation in the prosecution of pension claims and for the many courtesies extended to this office, which expedited the adjudication of these claims. We also wish to thank Col. William J. Blake, Regional Manager, of the local office of the Veterans' Administration, and his staff, for their assistance and cooperation, which we deeply appreciate.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID AND PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1939



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, JANUARY 22, 1940.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1938, and the part relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1939.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 234 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1938,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1939—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$ 35,484.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	1,490.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	36,637.42
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Ins. Service	11,441.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border Service	10.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Germany	159,356.14
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	300.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Ins. Service	551.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	1,810.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Germany	140,803.74
Burial expenses of soldiers and their dependents	18,207.93
 Total for 1938	 \$ 406,091.23

These figures show an increase of \$39,709.30 over 1937, which is due to the increased amount required for World War veterans and their dependents because of unemployment and increased disabilities of the veterans.

State Aid

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Civil War, for 1938, was 350, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 11; decrease, 7	Children, 14
Widows, 325; decrease, 64	
Total	350
Net decrease of recipients during 1938, 7	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$101.38+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1938, was 13, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 4; decrease, 3	Widows, 9; decrease, 3
Wives, 0; decrease, 1	
Total	13
Net decrease of recipients during 1938, 7	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$114.61+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Spanish War, for 1938, was 376, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 119; decrease, 16	Widows, 242; increase, 20
Wives, 2; decrease, 1	Mothers, 12; decrease, 2
	Children, 1
Total	376
Net increase of recipients during 1938, 1	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$97.43+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1938, was 126, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 50; decrease, 3	Mothers, 5; decrease, 1
Wives, 1	Children, 1
Widows, 69; decrease, 1	
Total	126
Net decrease of recipients during 1938, 5	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$90.80+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Mexican Border Service, for 1938, was 1, classified as follows:

Widows, 1	
Total	1
Average cost to State per person aided, \$10.00	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1938, was 1565, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 375; increase, 21	Fathers, 2
Wives, 41; decrease, 1	Children, 1; decrease, 1
Widows, 1079; increase, 131	Army Nurses, 1
Mothers, 66; decrease, 5	
Total	1565
Net decrease of recipients during 1938, 145	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$101.82+	

Total number of State Aid cases 2,431

Military Aid

Military Aid in the amount of \$143,464.74—an increase of \$24,266.32 over 1937—was disbursed as follows:

Spanish War soldiers, 1; decrease, 2	
Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 4; decrease, 1	
Mexican Border Service soldiers, 11; decrease, 4	
German War soldiers, 1019; increase, 95	
Yeoman F., 1	
Total number of Military Aid cases	1,036
<i>Spanish War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$ 300.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$300.00	
<i>Philippine Ins. Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	551.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$137.75	
<i>Mexican Border Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	1,710.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$171.00	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	100.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$100.00	
<i>German War Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	138,744.84
Average cost to State per person aided, \$137.64+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	2,058.90
Average cost to State per person aided, \$171.57+	
Total	\$143,464.74

Burials

During the year 1938, 207 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$18,207.93, a decrease of \$110.28 from 1937. They are classified as follows:

<i>Civil War:</i>				<i>Philippine Insurrection:</i>			
Soldiers	4	Increase	2	Soldiers	3	Decrease	6
Widows	32	Decrease	1	Wives	1	Increase	1
	<u>36</u>			Widows	<u>1</u>		
					5		
<i>Indian Campaigns:</i>				<i>German War:</i>			
Wives	1	Increase	1	Soldiers	90	Decrease	8
	<u>1</u>			Wives	15	Increase	10
				Widows	2	Decrease	1
<i>Spanish War:</i>				Fathers	8	Increase	6
Soldiers	19	Decrease	3	Mothers	6	Decrease	3
Widows	1			Army Nurses	1	Increase	1
Mothers	0	Decrease	1	Children	23	Increase	2
Fathers	<u>0</u>	Decrease	1	Yeoman F	<u>0</u>	Decrease	1
	20				145		
Total				207			

Net decrease of burial claims in 1938, 2

Average cost to State per burial \$87.96+

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES AND WIDOWS, UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1938, to November 30, 1939.

	<i>Soldiers</i>	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	1	70	71	\$2,022.07
January	1	66	67	1,999.00
February	1	69	70	1,926.00
March	1	70	71	2,056.00
April	1	72	73	2,044.17
May	1	69	70	2,007.00
June	1	64	65	1,850.00
July	1	65	66	1,952.60
August	1	66	67	1,888.90
September	1	64	65	1,983.90
October		61	61	1,803.00
November		63	63	1,864.13
Total				\$23,396.77

These figures show a decrease of \$3,979.78 from 1938.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures for this department for 1939, were as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of Special Care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$ 12,643.86
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Reimbursement for Agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932 .. 384.64

\$13,028.50

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses	44,656.23
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1938, paid in 1939	406,091.23
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	23,396.77
	\$474,144.23

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1938, were approximately \$94,585,513.19.

Financial Statement Verified

Approved: GEO. E. MURPHY, *Comptroller*.

LEGISLATION

Prior to the passage of Chapter 295, Acts of 1939, children of deceased veterans who were between the ages of sixteen and eighteen years were eligible to receive Soldiers' Relief only when physically incapacitated for work or attending school. This Chapter makes all children up to the age of eighteen years eligible to receive Soldiers' Relief, whether or not their fathers are deceased. Chapter 295 is printed below.

CHAPTER 295—*An Act relative to the granting of Soldiers' Relief to certain minor children of certain veterans.*

The first paragraph of section seventeen of chapter one hundred and fifteen of the General Laws, as most recently amended by chapter seventy-seven of the acts of nineteen hundred and thirty-six, is hereby further amended by striking out, in the seventeenth line, the word "sixteen" and inserting in place thereof the word:—eighteen,—by striking out, in the twentieth to the twenty-second lines, the words "sixteen years of age, or minor children over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work" and inserting in place thereof the words:—eighteen years of age,— and by striking out, in the thirty-ninth to the forty-first lines, the words "sixteen years of age, and those over sixteen but under eighteen years of age who attend school or are incapacitated for work" and inserting in place thereof the words:—eighteen years of age,—so as to read as follows:—If a person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the world war, or a pensioner of the United States who served under the authority or by the approval of the United States or any state or territory in any Indian war or campaign, or in connection with or in the zone of any active Indian hostilities in any of the states or territories of the United States prior to January first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, and who has a legal settlement in a town in the commonwealth, becomes poor and wholly or partly unable to provide maintenance for himself, his wife or minor children under eighteen years of age or for a needy father or mother, unless such condition is the result of his own criminal or

wilful misconduct, or if such person dies leaving a widow or minor children under eighteen years of age, or a needy father or mother, such support as may be necessary shall be accorded to him or his said dependents or needy parents by the town where they or any of them have a legal settlement, and his said dependents or needy parents, in the case of his death, shall not be deemed ineligible to receive said support by reason of criminal or wilful misconduct on his part at any time during his lifetime; but should such person have all the said qualifications except settlement, if he served in the war of the rebellion, or in the army, navy or marine corps in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between said dates, his widow, who has acquired a legal settlement in her own right before August twelfth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, which settlement has not been defeated or lost, or if he served in the world war and at the time of his decease was a legal resident of this commonwealth, his widow, who has a legal settlement and who has not remarried, and his minor children under eighteen years of age, shall also be eligible to receive relief under this section. Any crippled, blind or helpless child, whether a minor or adult, of a deceased person who served in the army or navy of the United States in the war of the rebellion, or in the war with Spain or the Philippine insurrection between April twenty-first, eighteen hundred and ninety-eight and July fourth, nineteen hundred and two, and received an honorable discharge from all enlistments therein, if such child is receiving a pension from the United States and is not otherwise eligible to receive relief under this section, shall also be eligible as aforesaid. Such relief shall be furnished by the aldermen or selectmen, or, in Boston, by the soldiers' relief commissioner, subject, however, to the direction of the city council of said city as to the amount to be paid. The beneficiary shall receive said relief at home, or at such other place as the aldermen, selectmen or soldiers' relief commissioner deem proper, but he shall not be compelled to receive the same at an infirmary or public institution unless his physical or mental condition requires, or, if a minor, unless his parents or guardian so elect. (*Approved June 15, 1939.*)

In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 24, Resolves of 1938, I have made an investigation relative to furnishing aid to, and providing for the payment of burial expenses of, certain persons who served in the military service of the Commonwealth, and the substance of this report can be found in House Document No. 179, of the year 1939.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1939, the sum of \$296 was expended under the provisions of Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled, "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund," leaving a balance of \$439.97 on December 1, 1939.

Colonel Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon General of this Commonwealth, has rendered excellent service in his medical examinations of the veterans of the various wars who seek Military Aid or admission to the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts (at Chelsea). His diagnoses have enabled this office to determine the amount of financial assistance needed in these cases, and we are indebted to him for his cordial cooperation and assistance.

Our agents made 7,580 examinations during 1938, as follows:

State and Military Aid cases	6,747
Hospital or Home Care, Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	180
Soldiers' Relief appeals	348
Soldiers' Relief special examinations, Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	296
Burial cases	2
Hospital cases	7
Total	7,580

PENSIONS

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1939, was 649, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Original	26
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Original, Spanish War	27
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Increase, Spanish War	218
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Original	1
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Increase	2
Soldiers, Act May 24, 1938, Spanish War	203
Soldiers, Act August 4, 1939	4
Widows, Accrued	2
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War	8
Widows, Act March 3, 1927, Indian Wars	2
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Original	5
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War	54
Widows, Act August 16, 1937, World War	2
Widows, Act May 13, 1938, World War	6
Widows, Act July 19, 1939, World War	8
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, and August 5, 1939, Spanish War	21
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 3, 1899	10
Mothers	4
Fathers	2
Guardians	5
Helpless Children	2
Reimbursement	18
Unendorsed Checks	10
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	8
Total	649
Number of claims allowed*	575
Number of claims rejected*	82
Amount collected	\$41,104.68

*Some of these claims were filed prior to 1939.

Up to date, a number of claims filed during the year have not been adjudicated by the Veterans' Administration.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

During the year 1939, the following laws were enacted in the 76th Congress:
Public No. 62—Act of May 3, 1939: To provide domiciliary care, medical and hospital treatment, and burial benefits to certain veterans of the Spanish-American War, the Philippine Insurrection, and the Boxer Rebellion.

Public No. 146—Act of June 21, 1939: To extend further time for naturalization to alien veterans of the World War under the Act approved May 25, 1932 (47 Stat. 165), to extend the same privileges to certain veterans of countries allied with the United States during the World War, and for other purposes.

Public No. 166—Act of July 11, 1939: To provide national flags for the burial of honorably discharged former service men and women.

Public No. 196—Act of July 19, 1939: To restore certain benefits to World War veterans suffering with paralysis, paresis, or blindness, or who are helpless, or bedridden, and for other purposes.

Public No. 198—Act of July 19, 1939: To provide certain benefits for World War veterans and their dependents, and for other purposes.

Public No. 250—Act of August 1, 1939: To increase the amount of Federal aid to State or Territorial homes for the support of disabled soldiers and sailors of the United States.

Public No. 257—Act of August 4, 1939: To provide pensions to members of the Regular Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard who become disabled by reason of their service therein, equivalent to 75 per centum of the compensation payable to war veterans for similar service-connected disabilities, and for other purposes.

Public No. 279—Act of August 5, 1939: To provide that pensions payable to the widows and orphans of deceased veterans of the Spanish-American War, Boxer Rebellion, or Philippine Insurrection shall be effective as of date of death of the veteran, if claim is filed within one year thereafter.

Copies of these Acts are printed below.

Act of May 3, 1939

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in addition to persons entitled to domiciliary care, medical and hospital treatment, and burial benefits under the provisions of sections 6 and 17, Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, as amended (U. S. C., title 38, secs. 706 and 717), and regulations issued pursuant thereto, as amended, those persons recognized as veterans of the Spanish-American War, including the Boxer Rebellion and Philippine Insurrection, under public laws in effect on March 19, 1933, are hereby included within the provisions of the aforesaid section 6, as amended, and the second proviso of the aforesaid section 17, and regulations issued pursuant thereto, as amended, in the same manner and to the same extent as the provisions are now or may hereafter be applied to veterans of any war as specified therein.

Act of June 21, 1939

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That subdivision (a) of section 1 of the Act entitled "An Act to further amend the naturalization laws, and for other purposes", approved May 25, 1932 (47 Stat. 165; U. S. C., Supp. VII, title 8, sec. 392b (a)), shall, as herein amended, continue in force and effect to include petitions for citizenship filed prior to May 25, 1940, with any court having naturalization jurisdiction: Provided, That for the purposes of this Act clause (1) of subdivision (a) of section 1 of the aforesaid Act of May 25, 1932, is amended by striking out the words "all such period" and in lieu thereof inserting the words "the five years immediately preceding the filing of his petition;"

SECTION 2. The provisions of section 1 of this Act are hereby extended to include any alien lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence who departed therefrom, for the purpose of serving, and actually served prior to November 11, 1918, in the military or naval forces of the United States in the World War and was discharged from such service under honorable circumstances; Provided, That before any applicant for citizenship under this section is admitted to citizenship the court shall be satisfied by competent proof that he is entitled to and has complied in all respects with the provisions of this Act; and that he was and had been a bona fide lawfully admitted resident in the United States for two years before the passage of this Act.

SECTION 3. The Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, with the approval of the Secretary of Labor, shall prescribe such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the enforcement of this Act.

Act of July 11, 1939

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That paragraph 1, Veterans Regulations Numbered 9 (a), as amended (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 38, ch. 12, appendix), be amended to read as follows:

"I. Where an honorably discharged veteran of any war, or a person honorably discharged from the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or

Coast Guard after serving at least one enlistment or for disability incurred in line of duty, dies after discharge, a flag to drape the casket shall be furnished in all cases; such flag to be given to the next of kin after burial of the veteran.”: Provided, That this amendment shall become effective on the date of enactment hereof.

Act of July 19, 1939—(Public—No. 196)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That on and after the date of enactment of this Act any World War veteran suffering from paralysis, paresis, or blindness, or who is helpless or bedridden, as the result of any disability, and who was in receipt of compensation therefor on March 19, 1933, may be awarded compensation under the laws and interpretations governing this class of cases prior to the enactment of Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933, subject, however, to the limitations, except as to misconduct or willful misconduct, contained in sections 27 and 28 of Public Law Numbered 141, Seventy-third Congress, March 28, 1934, as amended by section 5 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937: Provided, That the language herein contained shall not be construed to reduce or discontinue compensation authorized under the provisions of section 26 of Public Law Numbered 141, Seventy-third Congress: Provided further, That where a World War veteran dies or has died from disease or injury, service connection of which is or would have been reestablished under the provisions of this Act, his surviving widow, child, or children, if otherwise eligible thereto, shall be awarded death compensation under Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended.

SECTION 2. Payments to veterans restored to the rolls under the provisions of this Act shall be effective the date of enactment of this Act and payments to widows or children shall be effective the date of enactment of this Act or the date of filing claim therefor, whichever is the later.

Act of July 19, 1939—(Public—No. 198)

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That section 1 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934, as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“SECTION 1. (a) The surviving widow, child, or children of any deceased person who served in the World War before November 12, 1918, or if the person was serving with the United States military forces in Russia before April 2, 1920, who, while receiving or entitled to receive compensation, pension, or retirement pay for 10 per centum disability or more presumptively or directly incurred in or aggravated by service in the World War, dies or has died from a disease or disability not service connected shall, upon filing application and such proofs in the Veterans' Administration as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, be entitled to receive compensation as provided by this Act.

“(b) The surviving widow, child, or children of any deceased person who served in the World War before November 12, 1918, or if the person was serving with the United States military forces in Russia before April 2, 1920, and who was honorably discharged after having served ninety days or more (or who, having served less than ninety days, was discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty), who dies or has died from a disease or disability not service connected and at the time of death had a disability directly or presumptively incurred in or aggravated by service in the World War for which compensation would be payable if 10 per centum or more in degree, shall, upon filing application and such proofs in the Veterans' Administration as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe, be entitled to receive compensation as provided by this Act.

“(c) Payment of compensation under the provisions of this Act shall not

be made to any widow without child, or a child, whose annual income exceeds \$1,000, or to a widow with a child or children whose annual income exceeds \$2,500. In determining annual income, payments of war risk term insurance, United States Government life (converted) insurance, and payments under the World War Adjusted Compensation Act, as amended (U. S. C., title 38, ch. 11), and the Adjusted Compensation Payment Act, 1936, as amended, shall not be considered. Except as provided in section 6 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, August 16, 1937 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 472d), compensation authorized by this Act shall not be payable effective prior to the receipt of application therefor in the Veterans' Administration; and in no event shall compensation herein authorized be effective prior to the date of enactment of this Act."

SECTION 2. Section 2 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 504), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. (a) The monthly rates of compensation shall be as follows: Widow but no child, \$30; widow with one child, \$38 (with \$4 for each additional child); no widow but one child, \$15; no widow but two children, \$22 (equally divided); no widow but three children, \$30 (equally divided) (with \$3 for each additional child; total amount to be equally divided).

"(b) The total compensation payable under this section shall not exceed \$64. Where such benefits would otherwise exceed \$64, the amount of \$64 may be apportioned as the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may prescribe."

SECTION 3. Section 4 of Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, June 28, 1934, as amended (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 506), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 4. For the purpose of awarding compensation under the provisions of this Act, as amended, service connection of a disability at the date of death, and degree thereof where required, may be determined in any case where a claim has been or is filed by the widow, child, or children of a deceased World War veteran. Proof of disability at the date of death, and degree thereof where required, and evidence as to service connection, may be filed at any time after the date of enactment of this Act or the date of death. Evidence required in connection with any claim must be submitted in accordance with regulations prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs."

SECTION 4. In the administration of laws pertaining to veterans, retired officers, and enlisted men of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, who served honorably during a war period as recognized by the Veterans' Administration, shall be, and are, entitled to hospitalization and domiciliary care in Veterans' Administration facilities on parity with other war veterans and subject to those provisions of paragraph VI (A) of Veterans Regulation Numbered 6 (c), which provide for reduction of monetary benefits to veterans having neither wife, child, nor dependent parent while being furnished hospital treatment, institutional, or domiciliary care.

SECTION 5. Effective on the 1st day of the month next following the date of enactment of this Act, the rates of death compensation payable under the provisions of existing laws or veterans regulations to a surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father now on the rolls or hereafter to be placed on the rolls as the surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father of any World War veteran who died as the result of injury or disease incurred in or aggravated by active military or naval service in the World War, shall be as follows:

Widow, age under fifty years, \$38; widow, age fifty years or over, \$45; widow with one child, \$10 additional for such child up to ten years of age, increased to \$15 from age ten (with \$8 for each additional child up to ten years of age, increased to \$13 from age ten) (subject to apportionment regulations); no widow but one child, \$20; no widow but two children, \$33 (equally divided); no widow but three children, \$46 (equally divided) (with \$8 for each additional child, total

amount to be equally divided); dependent mother or father, \$45 (or both) \$25 each. As to the widow, child, or children, the total compensation payable under this section shall not exceed \$83. The amount of compensation herein authorized shall be paid in the event the monthly payment of compensation under Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (g) and the monthly payment of yearly renewable term or automatic insurance does not aggregate or exceed the amount of compensation herein authorized.

As to the surviving widow, child, or children, and/or dependent mother or father on the rolls on the date of enactment of this Act, any increased award herein authorized shall be effective from the date of enactment of this Act and in all other cases, except as provided in section 6 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, approved August 16, 1937, effective dates of awards shall be governed by the provisions of veterans regulations promulgated under Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933.

SECTION 6. Subparagraph (k) of paragraph II, part I, of Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (a), promulgated under Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, March 20, 1933, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“(k) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, has suffered the anatomical loss or the loss of the use of only one foot, or one hand, or one eye, the rate of pension provided in part I, paragraph II (a) to (j), shall be increased by \$35 per month.”

SECTION 7. On and after the date of enactment of this Act, the rate of interest charged on any loan secured by a lien on United States Government life (converted) insurance shall not exceed 5 per centum per annum.

Act of August 1, 1939

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Act entitled “An Act to provide aid to State or Territorial homes for the support of disabled soldiers and sailors of the United States”, approved August 27, 1888, as amended (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 24, sec. 134), is amended by striking out in the first paragraph thereof “\$120 per annum” and inserting in lieu thereof “\$240 per annum”.

SECTION 2. The amendment made by this Act shall apply to payments with respect to the care given to disabled soldiers and sailors on and after the first day of the month next following the month during which this Act is enacted: Provided, That said payments shall be made regardless of whether said veteran may be receiving domiciliary care or hospitalization in said home and the appropriations of the Veterans’ Administration for medical, hospital, and domiciliary care shall be available for this purpose: Provided further, That no payment to a State or Territory under this Act shall be made for any period prior to the date upon which the Administrator of Veterans’ Affairs determines that the veteran on whose account such payment is requested is eligible for such care in a Veterans’ Administration facility.

Act of August 4, 1939

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That effective on the 1st day of the month following the month in which this Act is enacted, paragraph II of part II of Veterans Regulations Numbered 1 (a), as amended, is amended to read as follows:

“II. For the purposes of part II, paragraph I (a) hereof, if the disability results from injury or disease—

“(a) If and while the disability is rated 10 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$7.50.

“(b) If and while the disability is rated 20 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$15.

“(c) If and while the disability is rated 30 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$22.50.

"(d) If and while the disability is rated 40 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$30.

"(e) If and while the disability is rated 50 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$37.50.

"(f) If and while the disability is rated 60 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$45.

"(g) If and while the disability is rated 70 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$52.50.

"(h) If and while the disability is rated 80 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$60.

"(i) If and while the disability is rated 90 per centum the monthly pension shall be \$67.50.

"(j) If and while the disability is rated as total the monthly pension shall be \$75.

"(k) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, has suffered the anatomical loss or the loss of the use of only one foot, or one hand, or one eye, the rate of pension provided in part II, paragraph II, (a) to (j), shall be increased by \$18.75 per month.

"(l) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, has suffered the anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands or of both feet, or of one hand and one foot, or is so helpless as to be in need of regular aid and attendance, the monthly pension shall be \$112.50.

"(m) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, has suffered the anatomical loss or loss of use of both hands and one foot, or of both feet and one hand, or if the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, is blind in both eyes, having only light perception, the monthly pension shall be \$131.25.

"(n) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, is blind in both eyes, having only light perception, and has suffered the anatomical loss or loss of use of one hand or of one foot, the monthly pension shall be \$150.

"(o) If the disabled person, as the result of service-incurred disability, has suffered the anatomical loss or loss of use as provided in subparagraphs (1) to (n), inclusive, of part II, paragraph II, of this regulation, and/or blindness in both eyes, having only light perception, which conditions under subparagraphs (1) to (n), inclusive, entitle him to two or more of the rates provided in those subparagraphs, no specified condition being considered twice in the determination, the monthly pension shall be \$187.50."

Act of August 5, 1939

"To provide that pensions payable to the widows and orphans of deceased veterans of the Spanish-American War, Boxer Rebellion, or Philippine Insurrection shall be effective as of date of death of the veteran, if claim is filed within one year thereafter."

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding any provisions of law or veterans' regulation, awards of death pension shall be effective as of the date of death of the veteran of the Spanish-American War, including the Boxer Rebellion and Philippine Insurrection, if claim is filed within one year after the death of such veteran.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our appreciation and gratitude are extended to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Washington, D. C., and to his assistants, Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, and Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Dependents' Claims Service, for the courteous attention and hearty cooperation they have given to this department in all matters coming within their jurisdiction. We also wish to thank Colonel William J. Blake, Regional Manager of the local office of the Veterans' Administration, and his staff, for their assistance and cooperation.

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COLL.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER

OF

STATE AID and PENSIONS

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30,

1940



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF STATE AID AND PENSIONS,
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON, February 1, 1941.

To the Honorable Senate and the House of Representatives:

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 115, Section 2, General Laws, I herewith submit to your honorable bodies the annual report of the Department of State Aid and Pensions, the part relating to State and Military Aid and burials being for the year 1939, and the part relating to Hospital or Home Care and United States pensions covering the year 1940.

Very respectfully,

RICHARD R. FLYNN,
Commissioner

ANNUAL REPORT

STATE AND MILITARY AID AND BURIAL EXPENSES

Disbursements of State and Military Aid to soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service, and the War with Germany, and their dependents, and for the burial of soldiers, sailors and marines of the Civil War, the Indian Campaigns, the Spanish War, the Philippine Insurrection, the Mexican Border Service and the War with Germany, and army nurses, by 230 cities and towns in the Commonwealth during 1939,—reimbursement being due and payable to the disbursing municipalities on or before November 10, 1940—were as follows:

State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Civil War	\$ 30,813.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Indian Campaigns	1,330.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Spain	36,525.60
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Philippine Ins. Service	11,420.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, Mexican Border Service	20.00
State Aid to soldiers and dependents, War with Germany	178,198.75
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Spain	350.00
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Philippine Ins. Service	342.10
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, Mexican Border Service	1,537.50
Military Aid to soldiers and sailors, War with Germany	158,176.43
Burial expenses for soldiers and their dependents	20,896.53

Total for 1939\$ 439,609.91

These figures show an increase of \$33,518.68 over 1938, which is due to the increased amount required for World War veterans and their dependents because of unemployment and increased disabilities of the veterans.

State Aid

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Civil War, for 1939, was 297, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 8; decrease, 3	Children, 14
Widows, 275; decrease, 50	
Total	297
Net decrease of recipients during 1939, 53	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$103.74+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Indian Campaign Service, for 1939, was 12 classified as follows:

Soldiers, 3; decrease, 1	Widows, 9
Total	12
Net decrease of recipients during 1939, 1	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$110.83+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Spanish War, for 1939, was 351, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 84; decrease, 35	Mothers, 10; decrease, 2
Wives, 1; decrease, 1	Children, 1
Widows, 255; increase, 13	
Total	351
Net decrease of recipients during 1939, 25	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$104.06+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Philippine Insurrection Service, for 1939, was 121, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 43; decrease, 7	Mothers, 2; decrease, 3
Wives, 1	Children, 1
Widows, 74; increase, 5	
Total	121
Net decrease of recipients during 1939, 5	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$94.38+	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, Mexican Border Service, for 1939, was 1, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 1	
Total	1
Average cost to State per person aided, \$20.00	

The total number of recipients of State Aid, War with Germany, for 1939, was 1,717, classified as follows:

Soldiers, 391; increase, 16	Fathers, 1; decrease, 1
Wives, 45; increase, 4	Children, 2; increase, 1
Widows, 1,207; increase, 128	Yeoman F., 1; increase, 1
Mothers, 70; increase, 4	Army Nurses, 0; decrease, 1
Total	1,717
Net increase of recipients during 1939, 152	
Average cost to State per person aided, \$103.78+	
Total number of State Aid cases	2,499
Net increase during 1939, 68	

Military Aid

Military Aid in the amount of \$160,406.03—an increase of \$16,941.29 over 1938—was disbursed as follows:

Spanish War soldiers, 2; increase, 1
 Philippine Insurrection soldiers, 5; increase, 1
 Mexican Border Service soldiers, 9; decrease, 2
 World War soldiers, 1,061; increase, 42
 Yeoman F., 1

Total number of Military Aid cases	1,078
Net increase during 1939, 42	
<i>Spanish War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	\$ 350.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$175.00	
<i>Philippine Ins. Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	342.10
Average cost to State per person aided, \$68.42	
<i>Mexican Border Service</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	1,537.50
Average cost to State per person aided, \$170.83+	
<i>German War</i> :—Amount expended, Classes 1 and 2	156,197.43
Average cost to State per person aided, \$148.33+	
Amount expended, Classes 3 and 4	1,979.00
Average cost to State per person aided, \$219.88+	
Total	\$ 160,406.03

Burials

During the year 1939, 233 burial claims were approved at an expense to the Commonwealth of \$20,896.53, an increase of \$2,688.60 over 1938. They are classified as follows:

<i>Civil War</i>				<i>German War</i>			
Soldiers	2	Decrease	2	Soldiers	109	Increase	19
Widows	40	Increase	8	Wives	12	Decrease	3
				Widows	0	Decrease	2
	42			Mothers	4	Decrease	2
				Fathers	12	Increase	4
				Army Nurses	0	Decrease	1
				Children	25	Increase	2
					162		
<i>Spanish War</i>							
Soldiers	17	Decrease	2				
Widows	1						
Mothers	1	Increase	1				
	19						
<i>Philippine Insurrection</i>							
Soldiers	8	Increase	5				
Wives	0	Decrease	1				
Widows	2	Increase	1				
	10						

Net increase of burial claims in 1939, 26

Average cost to State per burial, \$89.68+

HOSPITAL OR HOME CARE OF CIVIL WAR SOLDIERS, THEIR WIVES
AND WIDOWS, UNDER CHAPTER 340, ACTS OF 1929

The following is a table of beneficiaries and amounts paid under this Chapter from December 1, 1939, to November 30, 1940:

	<i>Widows</i>	<i>Amount</i>
December	64	\$1,810.35
January	62	1,889.98
February	63	1,753.00
March	66	1,954.79
April	63	1,723.00
May	62	1,656.00
June	62	1,604.00
July	63	1,709.90
August	61	1,621.00
September	60	1,540.00
October	57	1,545.50
November	55	1,530.33
Total		<u>\$20,337.85</u>

These figures show a decrease of \$3,058.92 from 1939.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

The receipts and expenditures for this department for 1940 were as follows:

Receipts

Amounts assessed on cities and towns on account of Special Care of Civil War veterans, their wives and widows, under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	\$ 11,062.33
Reimbursement for agents' services under Chapter 270, Acts of 1932	552.09
	<u>\$11,614.42</u>

Expenditures

Personal services of Commissioner and Deputies, agents, clerks and stenographers, and incidental and contingent expenses	44,802.61
Reimbursement to cities and towns for State and Military Aid and burial of soldiers and sailors and their dependents on account of 1939, paid in 1940	410,000.00
Special Care for Civil War veterans, their wives and widows under Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	20,337.85
	<u>\$475,140.46</u>

The total expenditures by the Commonwealth for State and Military Aid and burial of indigent soldiers and sailors and their dependents, including maintenance and improvement of the Soldiers' Home in Massachusetts, and on account of special laws, from 1861 to the close of 1939, were approximately \$95,430,945.90.

Financial Statement Verified

Approved: WALTER S. MORGAN, *Comptroller*.

SPANISH AMERICAN WAR REIMBURSEMENT FUND

During the year 1939, the sum of \$428.25 was expended under the provisions of Chapter 280, Acts of 1928, entitled, "Spanish American War Reimbursement Fund," leaving a balance of \$330.48 on December 1, 1940.

Col. Thomas F. Tierney, Surgeon General of this Commonwealth, has, as always, rendered excellent service in his medical examinations of veterans of the various wars who seek Military Aid or admission to the Soldiers' Home, Chelsea, Mass. His careful diagnoses and medical advice have enabled this office to determine the amount of financial assistance required in Military Aid cases, and this office is indebted to him for his assistance.

Our agents made 8,503 examinations during 1939, as follows:

State and Military Aid cases	7,642
Hospital or Home Care, Chapter 340, Acts of 1929	136
Soldiers' Relief appeals	642
Soldiers' Relief special examinations, Chapter 270, Acts 1932	41
Burial cases	8
Hospital cases	22
Pension cases	12
Total	<u>8,503</u>

PENSIONS

The total number of United States pension claims filed during the year ending December 31, 1940, was 501, classified as follows:

Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Original	11
Soldiers, Act March 20, 1933, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Original, Spanish War	14
Soldiers, Act August 13, 1935, Increase, Spanish War	126
Soldiers, Act August 25, 1937, Indian Wars, Increase	1
Soldiers, Act May 24, 1938, Spanish War	171
Soldiers, Act August 4, 1939	1
Soldiers, Act May 2, 1940	21
Soldiers, Act July 15, 1940	2
Widows, Accrued	4

P. D. 68	7
Widows, Act May 1, 1920, amended by Act June 9, 1930, Civil War ..	6
Widows, Act March 20, 1933, Original	1
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, Spanish War	6
Widows, Act August 13, 1935, and August 5, 1939, Spanish War	71
Widows, Act June 28, 1938	2
Widows, Act July 19, 1939, World War	21
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act March 3, 1899	1
Wives, Apportioned Pension, Act October 17, 1940	1
Fathers	1
Guardians	3
Helpless Children	2
Reimbursement	17
Unendorsed Check	12
Certificates in lieu of lost discharge	5
Total	501
Number of claims allowed*	407
Number of claims rejected*	93
Amount collected	\$30,690.40

*Some of these claims were filed prior to 1940.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION

The following laws relating to veterans and their dependents were enacted by the 76th Congress during the year 1940:

[PUBLIC—No. 412—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 21—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 5734]

AN ACT

For the relief of World War sailors and marines who were discharged from the United States Navy or United States Marine Corps because of minority or misrepresentation of age.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in the administration of law conferring rights, privileges, or benefits upon honorably discharged sailors of the United States Navy and upon honorably discharged marines of the United States Marine Corps, their widows and dependent children, a sailor or marine who served as an enlisted man between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918, both dates inclusive, and who was discharged for fraudulent enlistment on account of minority or misrepresentation of age, shall hereafter be held and considered to have been honorably discharged from the naval service on the date of his actual separation therefrom if his service otherwise was such as would have entitled him to an honorable discharge: *Provided*, That no back pay or allowance shall accrue by reason of the passage of this Act: *Provided further*, That in all such cases the Navy Department shall, upon request, grant to such men, or their widows, a discharge certificate showing that the sailor or marine is held and considered to have been honorably discharged under the provisions of this Act.

Approved, February 9, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 432—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 52—3D SESSION]

[S. 2866]

AN ACT

To provide for allowance of expenses incurred by Veterans' Administration beneficiaries and their attendants in authorized travel for examination and treatment.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized, under regulations to be prescribed by the President, to pay the actual necessary expenses of travel, including lodging and subsistence, or in lieu thereof an allowance based upon the mileage traveled, of any person to or from a Veterans' Administration facility, or other place for the purpose of examination, treatment, or care: *Provided*, That payment of mileage upon termination of examination, treatment, or care may be made prior to completion of such travel: *And provided further*, That when any such person requires an attendant other than an employee of the Veterans' Administration for the performance of such travel, such attendant may be allowed expenses of travel upon a similar basis.

Approved, March 14, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 461—76 CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 109—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 8083]

AN ACT

To authorize the Secretary of War to furnish certain markers for certain graves.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That notwithstanding any provision of existing law the Secretary of War is authorized to furnish, upon application, for use on graves in cemeteries where stone markers are not acceptable, a headstone or marker of such standard design and material as may be approved by him, within the limit of prevailing costs of the standard World War type headstone, for the grave of any deceased person for which the Secretary of War is authorized to furnish a marker or headstone: *Provided*, That the Secretary of War shall furnish the upright stone marker, authorized by section 4877 of the Revised Statutes, for cemeteries under the jurisdiction of the Secretary of War.

Approved, April 18, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 465—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 119—3D SESSION]

[S. 3067]

AN ACT

Authorizing appropriations to be made for the disposition of the remains of personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps and certain civilian employees of the Navy, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That funds to be expended under such regulations as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe are hereby authorized to be appropriated as may be necessary from time to time for the funeral expenses of the deceased persons hereinafter specified.

SEC. 2. The words "funeral expenses" as used in this Act, and in subsequent Acts appropriating funds as herein authorized, shall be construed to include the expenses of, and incident to, the recovery of bodies; cremation, but only on request of the relatives of the deceased; preparation for burial; transportation to the home of the deceased or to a national or other cemetery designated by proper authority; and interment.

SEC. 3. Funeral expenses shall be allowed for—

(a) Officers and enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps, including those on the retired lists who die while on active duty;

(b) Members of the Nurse Corps (female) of the Navy, including those on the retired list who die while on active duty;

(c) Members of the Naval Reserve or Marine Corps Reserve who die while on active or training duty, or while performing authorized travel to or from such duty;

(d) Accepted applicants for enlistment;

(e) Civilian employees of the Navy Department or the Naval Establishment who have been ordered away from their homes in the United States to duty outside the continental limits of the United States and who die while on such duty or while performing authorized travel to or from such duty;

(f) Former enlisted men of the Navy and Marine Corps who were discharged while patients in hospitals and who remain as patients in such hospitals to the day of their death; and

(g) Pensioners and destitute patients who die in naval hospitals: *Provided*, That only the expenses of preparation for burial and interment shall be allowed in disposing of the remains of such pensioners and destitute patients.

SEC. 4. The provisions of this Act shall apply in the case of personnel temporarily absent with or without leave when death occurred.

SEC. 5. In any case where funeral expenses authorized by this Act are incurred prior to receipt of official authority, reimbursement may be made in the amount allowed by the Navy Department for such services.

SEC. 6. Funds to be expended under such regulations as the Secretary of the Navy may prescribe are hereby authorized to be appropriated as may be necessary from time to time for the purchase and care of cemetery lots; for the care of graves of deceased personnel of the Navy and Marine Corps outside the continental limits of the United States, with which shall be included those in sites not owned by the United States; and for the removal of remains from abandoned cemeteries to naval or national cemeteries or to the homes of the persons deceased, with which shall be included remains interred in isolated graves in the United States and abroad and remains temporarily interred.

Approved, April 20, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 505—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 182—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 289]

AN ACT

For the relief of officers and soldiers of the volunteer service of the United States mustered into service for the War with Spain and who were held in service in the Philippine Islands after the ratification of the treaty of peace, April 11, 1899.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That all officers and soldiers of the volunteer service of the United States mustered into service for the War with Spain, who were held to service in the Philippine Islands for service in the Philippine Insurrection after April 11, 1899, and after the conclusion of peace with the Kingdom of Spain, shall be entitled to the travel pay and allowance for subsistence provided in sections 1289 and 1290, Revised Statutes, as then amended and in effect, as though discharged April 11, 1899, by reason of expiration of

enlistment, and appointed or reenlisted April 12, 1899, without deduction of travel pay and subsistence paid such officers or soldiers on final muster out subsequent to April 11, 1899: *Provided*, That no benefits shall accrue under any provision of this Act to any person whose claim is based upon the service of any such officer or soldier discharged in the Philippine Islands at his own request.

SEC. 2. Claims hereunder shall be settled in the General Accounting Office, and shall be payable to the officer or soldier, or if the person who rendered the service is dead, then to his widow, children in equal shares (but not to their issue), father, or mother as provided by existing Acts relating to the settlement of accounts of deceased officers and soldiers of the Army (34 Stat. 750), but if there is no widow, child, father, or mother at the date of settlement, then no payment on account of the claim shall be made.

SEC. 3. The Comptroller General is authorized and directed to certify to the Congress, pursuant to the provisions of section 2 of the Act of July 7, 1884 (U. S. C., title 5, sec. 266), all claims allowed hereunder.

SEC. 4. Application for the benefits of this Act shall be filed within three years after the date of its passage.

SEC. 5. Payment to any attorney or agent for such assistance as may be required in the preparation and execution of the necessary papers in any application under this Act shall not exceed the sum of \$10; any person collecting or attempting to collect a greater amount than is herein allowed shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine of not more than \$500 or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or by both such fine and imprisonment.

SAM RAYBURN

Speaker pro Tempore of the House of Representatives.

JNO N. GARNER

*Vice President of the United States and
President of the Senate.*

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, U. S.,

April 25, 1940.

The House of Representatives having proceeded to reconsider the bill (H. R. 289) entitled "An Act for the relief of officers and soldiers of the volunteer service of the United States mustered into service for the War with Spain and who were held in service in the Philippine Islands after the ratification of the treaty of peace, April 11, 1899", returned by the President of the United States with his objections, to the House of Representatives, in which it originated, it was

Resolved, That the said bill pass, two-thirds of the House of Representatives agreeing to pass the same.

Attest:

SOUTH TRIMBLE

Clerk.

I certify that this Act originated in the House of Representatives.

SOUTH TRIMBLE

Clerk.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,

May 2 (legislative day, April 24), 1940.

The Senate having proceeded to reconsider the bill (H. R. 289) entitled "An Act for the relief of officers and soldiers of the volunteer service of the United States mustered into service for the War with Spain and who were held in service in the Philippine Islands after the ratification of the treaty of peace, April 11, 1899", returned by the President of the United States to the House of

Representatives, in which it originated, with his objections, and passed by the House on a reconsideration of the same, it was

Resolved, That the said bill pass, two-thirds of the Senators present having voted in the affirmative.

Attest:

EDWIN A. HALSEY
Secretary.

[PUBLIC—No. 553—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 246—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 7733]

AN ACT

To provide increased pensions for veterans of the Regular Establishment with service-connected disability incurred in or aggravated by service prior to April 21, 1898.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That effective on the first day of the month following the month in which this Act is enacted, the rates of pension prescribed by paragraph II of part II of Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (a), as amended, shall be payable to veterans of the Regular Establishment entitled to pensions under the general pension law on account of service-connected disabilities incurred in or aggravated by service prior to April 21, 1898: *Provided*, That this Act shall not be construed to reduce any pension under any Act, public or private.

Approved, June 6, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 594—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 319—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 7147]

AN ACT

To amend the service pension Acts pertaining to the War with Spain, Philippine Insurrection, and the China Relief Expedition to include certain continuous service.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That in determining the period of active service for the purpose of the Act of May 1, 1926 (Public Law Numbered 166, Sixty-ninth Congress), the Act of June 2, 1930 (Public Law Numbered 299, Seventy-first Congress), and the Act of May 24, 1938 (Public Law Numbered 541, Seventy-fifth Congress), granting service pensions to veterans and dependents of deceased veterans of the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or the China Relief Expedition, continuous active service entered into during the War with Spain, the Philippine Insurrection, or the China Relief Expedition shall be included although part of such continuous service extended into either the Philippine Insurrection or the China Relief Expedition. Payments of benefits under the provisions of this Act shall be effective the date of enactment thereof as to those persons on the rolls and as to claims pending on the date of enactment of this Act. In all other cases awards of pension authorized hereunder shall be effective from date of application therefor after the date of enactment of this Act.

Approved, June 11, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 743—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 626—3D SESSION]

[S. 134]

AN ACT

Providing for continuing retirement pay, under certain conditions, of officers and former officers of the Army, Navy, and Marine Corps of the United States, other than officers of the Regular Army, Navy, or Marine Corps, who incurred physical disability while in the service of the United States during the World War, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That, notwithstanding the provisions of any law of the United States, any person who served as an officer of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States during the World War, other than as an officer of the Regular Army, Navy, or Marine Corps during the World War, who made valid application for retirement under the provisions of Public Law Numbered 506, Seventieth Congress, enacted May 24, 1928 (U. S. C., Supp. VII, title 38, secs. 581 and 582), and who prior to the passage of this Act has been granted retirement with pay and is shown to have been heretofore correctly rated, shall be entitled to continue to receive retirement pay at the monthly rate paid him on March 19, 1933, if the disability for which he has been retired resulted from disease or injury or aggravation of a preexisting disease or injury incurred in such service in fact in line of duty and directly resulting from the performance of duty: *Provided*, That such person rendered active service as a commissioned officer within the period between April 6, 1917, and November 11, 1918: *Provided further*, That where the disability is now or hereafter determined to be clearly shown by all of the evidence to have been incurred in or aggravated by active service, in fact in line of duty without benefit of any statutory or regulatory presumption of any kind, it will be considered to have directly resulted from performance of duty: *Provided further*, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized and directed to adjudicate claims for emergency officers' retirement in accordance with the provisions of the Act of May 24, 1928 (Public Law Numbered 506, Seventieth Congress), subject to limitations contained in section 10 of the Act of March 20, 1933 (Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress), as modified by the provisions of this Act, in any case where the disability resulted from injury or disease incurred in combat with an enemy of the United States, and where entitlement is established based upon such injury or disease the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized to grant retirement with pay as provided in the said Act of May 24, 1928, notwithstanding the failure of the person to file claim within the period required by said Act of May 24, 1928.

SEC. 2. No beneficiary under this Act shall receive any retirement pay for any period prior to the date of this Act.

SEC. 3. That subsection (b) of section 212 of Public Law Numbered 212, Seventy-second Congress, shall be amended to read as follows:

"(b) This section shall not apply to any person whose retired pay, plus civilian pay, amounts to less than \$3,000: *Provided*, That this section shall not apply to regular or emergency commissioned officers retired for disability incurred in combat with an enemy of the United States or for disabilities resulting from an explosion of an instrumentality of war in line of duty during an enlistment or employment as provided in Veterans Regulation Numbered 1 (a), part I, paragraph I."

Approved, July 15, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 746—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 632—3D SESSION]

[S. 458]

AN ACT

Extending the benefits of the Emergency Officers' Retirement Act of May 24, 1928, to provisional, probationary, or temporary officers of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard who served during the World War.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the benefits of the Act of May 24, 1928, (Public, Numbered 506, Seventieth Congress), subject to the limitations contained in section 10 of the Act of March 20, 1933 (Public, Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress) as now or hereafter amended are hereby extended to provisional, probationary, or temporary officers of the military or naval forces or Coast Guard, who served subsequent to April 6, 1917, and who are now in a status of honorable separation from the military, naval, or Coast Guard Service, if application for such benefits is filed with the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs within twelve months after the passage of this Act: *Provided*, That the benefits under this Act shall take effect from the date of application, if approved.

Approved, July 18, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 747—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 633—3D SESSION]

[S. 3131]

AN ACT

To extend the benefits of the United States Employees' Compensation Act to members of the Officers' Reserve Corps and of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army who were physically injured in line of duty while performing active duty or engaged in authorized training between dates of February 28, 1925, and July 15, 1939, both inclusive, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That where in time of peace any member of the Officers' Reserve Corps or of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army was physically injured in line of duty (1) while on active duty, or (2) while engaged in authorized travel to and from such duty, or (3) while engaged in authorized training without pay, or dies or has died as the result of such physical injury, where such injury or death occurred between the dates of February 28, 1925, and July 15, 1939, both inclusive, when such injury or death results from an accident involving a military hazard such as flying in military aircraft, participation in military drills, target practice and tactical exercises, and in injury cases where such injury has resulted in permanent partial or permanent total disability, he or his beneficiary shall be entitled to all the benefits prescribed by law for civil employees of the United States who are physically injured in line of duty or who die as a result thereof, and the United States Employees' Compensation Commission shall have jurisdiction in such cases and shall perform the same duties with reference thereto as in the cases of civil employees of the United States so injured: *Provided*, That the benefits shall accrue to any such member, or his beneficiary, whether the disability or death is the result of sickness or disease contracted in line of duty while on active duty when such sickness or disease is proximately caused by service on active duty: *Provided further*, That employees' compensation under this Act shall not be paid concurrently with active-duty pay or pension based upon military service, and in

the event a person becomes eligible for the benefits of the United States Employees' Compensation Act and is also eligible for, or is in receipt of, a pension based upon military service, he shall elect which benefit to receive: *Provided further*, That authorized training without pay is defined as inactive-status training under written authorization by competent military authority covering a specific training assignment and prescribing a time limit: *Provided further*, That for the purpose of determining benefits to which entitled under the provisions of this Act members of the Officers' Reserve Corps or of the Enlisted Reserve Corps of the Army physically injured when engaged in authorized training without pay will be held and considered as receiving the pay and allowances they would have received if in a pay status: *And provided further*, That nothing herein shall be construed to authorize compensation benefits which may have accrued for any period prior to the approval of this Act, but eligibility for compensation benefits shall be determined as of the date of approval of this Act and any benefits payable shall date only from such approval and the eight-year period of limitation in section 10-G of the Federal Employees' Compensation Act of September 7, 1916, shall be computed for purposes of this Act, from the date of approval thereof.

Where injury or death has been sustained by any member of the Officers' Reserve Corps or Enlisted Reserve Corps while performing authorized training without pay upon inactive status it shall be presumed that such training was being performed under written authorization of competent military authority covering a specific training assignment and prescribing a time limit and thus subject to the provision of this Act unless a duly appointed Examining Board, appointed at the time of said accident, has found and reported to the contrary.

All claims for disability or death benefits allowed under the provisions of this Act shall be made within one year from its approval by the President.

Approved, July 18, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 796—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 743—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 7731]

AN ACT

To provide for the burial and funeral expenses of deceased veterans of the Regular Establishment who were discharged for disability incurred in the service in line of duty, or in receipt of pension for service connected disability.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the first sentence of paragraph II of Veterans' Regulations Numbered 9 (a), as amended, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"II. Where an honorably discharged veteran of any war, a veteran of any war in receipt of pension or compensation, a veteran discharged from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard for disability incurred in line of duty, or a veteran of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard in receipt of pension for service connected disability dies after discharge, the Administrator, in his discretion and with due regard to the circumstances in each case, shall pay, for burial and funeral expenses and transportation of the body (including preparation of the body) to the place of burial, a sum not exceeding \$100 to cover such items and to be paid to such person or persons as may be prescribed by the Administrator."

Approved, October 5, 1940.

[PUBLIC—No. 866—76TH CONGRESS]

[CHAPTER 893—3D SESSION]

[H. R. 8930]

AN ACT

To amend section 202 (3), World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, to provide more adequate and uniform administrative provisions in veterans' laws, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, approved June 28, 1934, as amended, is hereby amended by adding a new section thereto numbered 6 to read as follows:

"SEC. 6. There shall be no recovery of payments heretofore or hereafter made under the provisions of this Act from any person who, in the judgment of the Administrator, is without fault on his part and where, in the judgment of the Administrator, such recovery would defeat the purpose of benefits otherwise authorized or would be against equity and good conscience. No disbursing officer and no certifying officer shall be held liable for any amount paid to any person where the recovery of such amount from the payee is waived under the provisions of this section. This section shall be deemed to be in effect as of June 28, 1934."

SEC. 2. (a) That paragraphs II, III, and IV of Veterans Regulation Numbered 9 (a), as amended, be further amended to read as follows:

"II. Where an honorably discharged veteran of any war, a veteran of any war in receipt of pension or compensation, a veteran discharged from the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard for disability incurred in line of duty, or a veteran of the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Coast Guard in receipt of pension for service-connected disability dies after discharge, the Administrator, in his discretion and with due regard to the circumstances in each case, shall pay, for burial and funeral expenses and transportation of the body (including preparation of the body) to the place of burial, a sum not exceeding \$100 to cover such items and to be paid to such person or persons as may be prescribed by the Administrator. The Administrator may, in his discretion, make contracts for burial and funeral services within the limits of the amount herein allowed without regard to the laws prescribing advertisement for proposals for supplies and services for the Veterans' Administration. No deduction shall be made from the burial allowance because of any contribution from any source toward the burial and funeral (including transportation) unless the amount of expenses incurred is covered by the amount actually paid for burial and funeral (including transportation) purposes by a State, county, or political subdivision, workmen's compensation commission, State industrial accident board, employer, burial association, or Federal agency: *Provided*, That no claim shall be allowed for more than the difference between the entire amount of the expenses incurred, and the amount paid by any or all of the foregoing agencies or organizations: *Provided further*, That nothing herein shall be construed to cause the denial of or a reduction in the amount of the burial allowance otherwise payable because of a cash contribution made by a burial association to any person other than the person rendering burial and funeral services: *And provided further*, That nothing herein contained shall be construed so as to cause payment of the burial allowance or any part thereof in any case where specific provision is otherwise made for payment of expenses of funeral, transportation, and interment under any other Act.

"III. Where death occurs in a Veterans' Administration facility within the continental limits of the United States, the Veterans' Administration will (a) assume the actual cost (not to exceed \$100) of burial and funeral, and (b) transport the body to the place of burial within the continental limits of the United States or to the place of burial in Alaska if the veteran was a resident of Alaska and had been brought to the United States as beneficiary of the Veterans' Administration for hospital or domiciliary care. Where a veteran dies while hospitalized under authority of the Veterans' Administration in a Territory or possession of the United States the Veterans' Administration will (a) assume the actual cost (not to exceed \$100) of burial and funeral, and (b) transport the body to the place of burial within the Territory or possession.

"IV. Claims for reimbursement must be filed within two years subsequent to the date of burial of the veteran. In the event the claimant's application is not complete at the time of original submission, the Veterans' Administration will notify the claimant of the evidence necessary to complete the application and if

such evidence is not received within one year from the date of the request therefor no allowance may be paid: *Provided*, That where the death of a veteran occurred on or after March 20, 1933, and claim for burial allowance was not filed, or was filed after the expiration of the regulatory period, or was filed within the regulatory period and disallowed, the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs is hereby authorized and directed to receive and adjudicate a claim filed within two years after the date of enactment of this Act and to grant burial allowance under the provisions of laws and regulations governing such allowance as amended by this Act."

(b) That paragraph III of Veterans Regulation Numbered 6 (a), as amended, be further amended to read as follows:

"III. To persons unable to defray the cost thereof, transportation and other necessary expenses incidental thereto will be supplied to cover travel to a Veterans' Administration facility for domiciliary or hospital care; to cover return travel to the place from which the person proceeded to the facility, when he is regularly discharged upon completion of such care; and to cover travel involved in a transfer, deemed necessary, from one Veterans' Administration facility to another. All such travel will be subject to grant of prior authorization therefor. In the event of death of any person within the continental limits of the United States prior to his discharge from such care, transportation expenses (including preparation of the body) for the return of the body to the place of burial within the continental limits of the United States, or to the place of burial in Alaska if the veteran was a resident of Alaska and had been brought to the United States as a beneficiary of the Veterans' Administration for hospital or domiciliary care, may be paid in the discretion of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, when deemed necessary and as an administrative necessity. In the event of death of any such person in a Territory or possession of the United States transportation expenses (including preparation of the body) for the return of the body to place of burial within the Territory or possession may be paid."

(c) This section shall be applied to any claim for burial benefits pending in the Veterans' Administration on the date of its enactment.

SEC. 3. Where a disabled person, entitled to pension, compensation, or emergency officers' retirement pay under laws or regulations administered by the Veterans' Administration, and his wife are not living together, or where the child or children are not in the custody of the disabled person; or where, in death cases, the child or children are not in the custody of the widow, the amount of the pension, compensation or emergency officers' retirement pay may be apportioned as may be prescribed by the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs.

The Act of March 3, 1899 (30 Stat. 1379, ch. 460; U. S. C., title 38, secs 45, 46, 47, and 49), with the exception of the last proviso U. S. C., title 38, sec. 192), paragraph VII of Veterans Regulation Numbered 6 series (U. S. C., title 38, ch. 12, appendix), and all other provisions of law or regulation in conflict with the foregoing are repealed or modified to conform with the provisions of this section.

SEC. 4. That paragraph IV, Veterans Regulation Numbered 6 (a), as amended, (U. S. C., title 38, ch. 12, appendix), is hereby amended to read as follows:

"IV. No person shall be entitled to receive domiciliary, medical, or hospital care, including treatment, who resides outside of the continental limits of the United States or its Territories or possessions: *Provided*, That in the discretion of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs necessary hospital care, including medical treatment, may be furnished to veterans who are citizens of the United States and who are temporarily sojourning or residing abroad, for disabilities due to war service in the armed forces of the United States."

SEC. 5. That section 3 of Public Law Numbered 262, Seventy-fourth Congress, approved August 12, 1935, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following sentence: "From and after the date of approval of this amendatory Act this section shall be construed to prohibit the collection by set-off or otherwise out of any benefits payable pursuant to any law administered by the

Veterans' Administration and relating to veterans, their estates, or their dependents, of any claim of the United States or any agency thereof against (a) any person other than the indebted beneficiary or his estate; or (b) any beneficiary or his estate except amount due the United States by such beneficiary or his estate by reason of overpayments or illegal payments made under such laws relating to veterans, to such beneficiary or his estate or to his dependents as such: *Provided, however*, That if the benefits be insurance payable by reason of yearly renewable term or of United States Government life (converted) insurance issued by the United States, the exemption herein provided shall be inapplicable to indebtedness existing against the particular insurance contract upon the maturity of which the claim is based, whether such indebtedness be in the form of liens to secure unpaid premiums, or loans, or interest on such premiums or loans, or indebtedness arising from overpayments of dividends, refunds, loans, or other insurance benefits: *Provided further*, That nothing in this amendatory Act shall be construed to modify or repeal section 7 of Public Law Numbered 425, Seventy-fourth Congress, enacted January 27, 1936 (38 U. S. C. 687-b; 49 Stat. 1101)."

SEC. 6. That on and after the date of enactment of this Act, World War veterans otherwise entitled to the statutory award under the provisions of the last paragraph of section 202 (3), World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, for the loss of the use of one or more feet or hands, shall be paid \$35 per month additional compensation in lieu of \$25 per month previously authorized.

SEC. 7. Section 1 of Public Law Numbered 196, Seventy-Sixth Congress, July 19, 1939, is hereby amended by striking therefrom the words "and who was in receipt of compensation therefor on March 19, 1933" and by substituting for the second proviso thereof the following: "*Provided further*, That where a World War veteran dies or has died, and service connection for any of the foregoing conditions is or would have been established under the provisions of this amendment, the surviving widow, child, or children, if otherwise eligible thereto, shall be awarded death compensation under Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended".

SEC. 8. Except as provided in section 6 of Public Law Numbered 304, Seventy-fifth Congress, approved August 16, 1937 (U. S. C., title 38, sec. 472d), compensation authorized by section 7 of this Act shall not be payable effective prior to the receipt of application therefor in the Veterans' Administration, and in no event shall compensation therein authorized be effective prior to the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 9. That when disability compensation or pension based upon service-connected disability has been forfeited by a veteran under section 504 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended (43 Stat. 1312; U. S. C., title 38, sec. 555), or section 15 of Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress (48 Stat. 11; U. S. C., title 38, sec. 715), compensation or pension payable except for the forfeiture, from and after the date of suspension of payments to the veteran, shall be paid to his wife, child or children, and/or dependent parents, such payments not to exceed the amount payable in case such veteran had died from such service-connected disability: *Provided*, That no compensation or pension shall be paid to any dependent who has participated in the fraud for which the forfeiture was imposed.

Forfeiture of benefits by a veteran under the provisions of section 504, World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, or section 15 of Public Law Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress, shall not be construed to prohibit reimbursement on account of expenses incurred in the burial of such veteran otherwise authorized by law, or to prohibit payments of death compensation benefits for service-connected death or under Public Law Numbered 484, Seventy-third Congress, as amended.

Benefits authorized by this section shall not be paid for any period prior to the date of this enactment.

SEC. 10. Veterans Regulation Numbered 11 (U. S. C., title 38, ch. 12, appendix), promulgated under the Act of March 20, 1933 (Public, Numbered 2, Seventy-third Congress), is hereby amended by adding a new paragraph thereto numbered "III", to read as follows:

"III. The provisions of Veterans Regulation Numbered 11 shall apply to all claims under any of the laws administered by the Veterans' Administration: *Provided*, That the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs may release information, statistics, or reports, to individuals or organizations when in his judgment such release would serve a useful purpose."

SEC. 11. Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, except as provided in section 19 of the World War Veterans' Act, 1924, as amended, and in section 817 of the National Service Life Insurance Act of 1940, the decisions of the Administrator of Veterans' Affairs on any question of law or fact concerning a claim for benefits or payments under this or any other Act administered by the Veterans' Administration shall be final and conclusive and no other official or any court of the United States shall have power or jurisdiction to review any such decisions.

SEC. 12. Where any veteran suffers or has suffered an injury, or an aggravation of any existing injury, as the result of having submitted to an examination under authority of any of the laws granting monetary or other benefits to World War veterans, and not the result of his misconduct, and such injury or aggravation results in additional disability to or the death of such veteran, the veteran or his dependents shall be entitled to the same benefits as are provided for those who suffer an injury or an aggravation of any existing injury as a result of training, hospitalization, or medical or surgical treatment under the provisions of section 31 of Public Law Numbered 141, Seventy-third Congress, March 28, 1934. No benefits under this section shall be awarded unless application be made therefor within two years after such injury or aggravation was suffered, or such death occurred, or after the date of enactment of this Act, whichever is the later date.

Approved, October 17, 1940.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We wish to express our sincere thanks to General Frank T. Hines, Administrator of Veterans' Affairs, Washington, D. C., and to his assistants, Mr. George E. Brown, Director of Veterans' Claims Service, and Mr. E. L. Bailey, Director of Dependents' Claims Service, for the kind cooperation they have given to this department. We also extend our appreciation to Col. William J. Blake, Regional Manager of the local office of the Veterans' Administration, and his staff for their helpful cooperation.

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